

Hence there is urgent need to start a Central Government Training Centre to impart preliminary training to the boys who wish to appear for various Class I and Class II competitive examinations of the Central Government. As the situation prevails today, many of the vacancies reserved for S.T. people are not filled for want of suitable candidates.

Therefore, I urge upon the Minister to act promptly in starting the training centre in this tribal belt.

- (iii) Need to declare the Union Territory of Goa, Daman and Diu as a full-fledged State.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji) : Sir, On 19th December, 1985 the Union Territory of Goa, Daman and Diu completes its 25 years of independence from the Portuguese rule.

Although people of this territory missed the first two Five Year Plans, yet, during the course of future Plans, the Central Government were kind enough to render all the financial assistance to the Union Territory's Government to be a self-reliant economy.

The Opinion Poll, which was held in Goa two decades back, gave it a status of Union Territory and, it is only on account of that status that the territory became the direct responsibility of the Central Government so far as its development was concerned.

Now Goa can stand on its own legs. The territory is self-sufficient to a large extent. At least, it is better off, than many of the States recently created.

It is now time that the Central Government decides to declare Goa, Daman and Diu a full-fledged State.

This will be the best present, that the Central Government can give to Goa on the eve of its Silver Jubilee Celebrations.

[Translation]

- (iv) Need to increase the capacity of telephone exchanges at Bhandara and Tumsar in Maharashtra.

SHRI KESHAORAO PARDHI (Bhandara) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Bhandara district of Maharashtra is a backward district in the State. Due to lack of

communication facilities, not to speak of setting up of new industries in the area, even the old industries are likely to shift to the area out of the district. The lack of telephone facility is causing great inconvenience to the people in the area.

Bhandara is the headquarter of the district, but due to inadequate capacity of the telephone exchange, no new telephone connection has been given since 1981 in Bhandara. The people who deposited money under OYT scheme and even the Government offices are not able to get new connections. There are 165 persons on the waiting list in Bhandara and over 50 persons in Tumsar. There is a long standing demand for a higher capacity exchange at both these places. The pace of cable work between Nagpur and Sambalpur is very slow.

With a view to link all the three towns with S.T.D. cables have been laid upto Devri which is on the border of the State. From this place, Gondia, Tumsar and Bhandara could easily be connected by STD. An assurance was given in the last Lok Sabha for installation of higher capacity exchanges at Tumsar and Bhandara as also to link all the three cities of Gondia, Bhandara and Tumsar by STD, but this work has not been completed so far.

I, therefore, request the hon. Communications Minister to expedite the above said works and provide relief and facilities to the people of this backward area.

- (v) Need to set up a committee to consider providing proper educational facilities to the children of Government employees posted in desert areas, snow clad regions and other difficult areas.

SHRIMATI USHA THAKKAR (Kutch) : I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Members to an important matter. This is an important issue for me, because the people of my constituency often come to me with these complaints. Sir, many Government employees are deployed in desert, snow bound and other difficult areas of the country. Thousands of Government employees are working in my constituency in Kutch, Banaskantha and desert areas of Rajasthan. Similarly there are many areas in snow clad mountains where employees are posted. I have myself visited these areas and I know that there are