

Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited

*973. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal submitted by Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited regarding very small aperture terminus also under consideration of Government?

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken any final decision on the proposal;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited has submitted several proposals from parties proposing to use very small aperture satellite terminals (V-SATs) for

(i) both way communications; and

(ii) reception purpose only.

(c) Yes, Sir. Decisions have been taken on the proposals received.

(d) (i) For both-way communications it has been decided not to permit installation of subscribers' own V-SATs which have direct communication with hub station in a foreign country. However, point to point communication link with another country is permitted provided the earth station in India is installed, maintained and operated by the National Communication agencies and Ministry of Home Affairs also approves the same.

(ii) Receive only Satellite terminals are allowed subject to the issue of licence by the

Wireless Planning and Coordination Committee (WPC) and certain specified conditions.

(e) Question does not arise in view of reply to (c) and (d) above.

Telephone connection at Charkhi Dadri Telephone Exchange

*974. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone connections provided so far from telephone exchange, Charkhi Dadri, Haryana;

(b) whether the dial system has not been introduced so far in this exchange due to which the subscribers are put to great inconvenience; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken or proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) 784 telephone connections have been provided so far from Charkhi Dadri, Haryana.

(b) and (c). The dial system could not be introduced so far due to shortage of suitable size of exchange equipment. It is proposed to replace the present exchange by a 2048 Port Digital Electronic Exchange (1991-92) subject to its timely availability.

[Translation]

Setting up of Central Poultry Breeding Farms in Uttar Pradesh

*975. SHRI KALPNATH SONKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state: