Electronic Telephone Exchanges at Haidwani

4868. SHRI M.S. PAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction of building for Electronic Automatic Exchange at Haldwani has been completed; and

(b) if so, the time by which the necessary equipment is likely to be installed and the telephone exchange will start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is planned to install and commission the telephone exchange at Haldwani in 1992-93.

Memorandum from Tamil Action Committee in U.K.

4869. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a memorandum from the Tamil Action Committee based in U.K. seeking India's protection and to end the killing of Tamils by the Sri Lankan armed forces, brute torture, lengthy detentions and killings in the prisons;

(b) if so, the details of the memorandum; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH): (a) and (b). The Tamil Action Committee based in London made an appeal in a letter 14 July 1990. The letter interalia alleges that the Sri Lankan army has been given a free hand to terrorise and kill the ordinary Tamil population. The letter urges the Government to put pressure on Sri Lanka Government to stop the largescale killings of the Tamil speaking people.

(c) Government have expressed its concern on several occasions to Sri Lanka Government over the safety and security of Tamils in Sri Lanka. The P.M. in a statement on 27 August expressed deep concern at the sharp escalation of conflict and called for an immediate cessation of hostilities in Sri Lank and a return to negotiations.

Development of Technology in Agriculture

4870. SHRIMANORANJAN BHAKATA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps are contemplated to increase and upgrade technology in agriculture; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Special thrust areas have been identified for improving and upgrading the technology in agriculture. These are Rainfed farming, breeder seed production, adaptive research on sugarcane, promotion & development of hybrid seeds, post-harvest engineering and technology and frontier areas of research viz., bio-technology, space imagery, informatic and use of plastics in agriculture.

Irregularities in Central Translation Bureau

4871. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General of India in his report on Union Government—Civil for the year ending 31 March, 1989 has pointed out that the Centrals Translation Bureau did not follow the prescribed accounting procedure and misappropriated at log of money;

(b) if so, the exact amount involved; and

(c) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) The Comptroller and Auditor General of India has, on the basis of audit conducted by the Audit Party in October, 1988, included a para of this nature in his report that amounts realised from the hostel occupants of the Central Translation Bureau, New Delhi through the hostel warden pertaining to the period form September, 1986 to October, 1988 were not brought in the Cash Book by the Cashier. When this irregularity was pointed out by the Audit Party, the Cashier accounted for this amount in the cash book on 17.10.88. 19.10.88. 24.10.88 and 26.10.88.

(b) Objection of the Audit Party was about the amount of Rs. 35,970/- Moreover, they revealed that an amount of Rs. 18,000/ - was accounted for in the Cash Book after incoordinate delay.

(c) This irregularity was investigated and it was found that, though public money was not misappropriated, yet the Cashier, the Drawing and Disbursing Officer and the warden of the Hostel, not having followed the prescribed procedure for depositing public money on time, did not perform their duties properly. Subsequently, the Drawing and Disbursing Officer, Cashier and Warden of the Hostel were administered strict warning for negligence of their duty and they were transferred from their posts.

Supply of Rock Phosphate at Subsidised Rates

4872. SHRI H.C. SRIKANTAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the farmers of Karnataka, especially from Malnad region for the supply of Rock Phosphate at subsidised rates; and

(b) if so, the decision taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOP-MENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICUL-TURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Night Time Parking Fees from Vehicle Owners

4873. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: SHRI RAM SAGAR (Saidpur): SHRI Y.S. RAJA SEKHAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Municipal Corporation of Delhi has a plan to charge parking fees from the vehicle owners who park their vehicles on municipal roads during the night;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the fees to be charged and the rationale behind the scheme;

(c) the estimated revenue likely to be collected by MCD ever month;

(d) whether the above scheme will be