

(c) and (d). Government is observing 1991 as "Tourism Year". During this year number of fairs and festivals are being promoted. Most of the fairs and festivals have rural orientation and will focus upon Indian heritage and culture.

Private Sector Involvement In Development of National Highways

*109. SHRI B. N. REDDY:
SHRI PRAKASH KOKO
BRAHMBHATT:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have taken a final decision with regard to participation of private sector in the field of construction and improvement of National Highways in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Meeting of Indo-China Joint Working Group on Border Issue

*110. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposed meeting of the Indo-China Joint Working Group on the boundary question to be held in 1990 has since been held; and

(b) if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The second session of

the India-China Joint Working Group on the boundary question and Annual Consultations at Foreign Office level took place in New Delhi on August 30-31, 1990.

During the discussions, the two sides significantly enhanced their understanding of each other's approaches to the solution of the boundary question. The effort was to adopt a practical and realistic approach and to look to the future. Hope was expressed by both sides that, by working in a sincere and forward-looking manner, they would be able to establish a basis for the solution of the boundary question, as well as for maintaining peace and tranquillity in the border areas.

The two sides agreed to a mechanism whereby their military personnel would meet from time to time at an appropriate level with a view to maintaining peace and tranquillity in the border areas.

Ways and means of further improving bilateral relations between the two countries were discussed, and views exchanged on regional and international issues of mutual concern. The growing interaction between the two countries in various fields was noted with satisfaction by both sides. The determination to maintain and further strengthen the momentum of bilateral relations was reiterated.

Telephone Connections in Maharashtra

*111. SHRI HARI BHAI SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons on the waiting list for telephone connections in Maharashtra, district-wise;

(b) the number of telephone connections released since 1 January, 1990, district-wise; and

(c) the time by which telephone connections are likely to be provided to all the persons on the waiting list?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR.
SANJAY SINGH): (a) Statement I is attached.
(b) Statement II is attached.

(c) The expansion plans are drawn for
clearing the present waiting list progres-
sively during the Eighth Plan period.

STATEMENT - I

Districtwise Waiting List of Maharashtra As on 30.9.90

1.	Ahmednagar	5902
2.	Akola	3134
3.	Amravati	3955
4.	Aurangabad	10407
5.	Beed	978
6.	Bhandara	1723
7.	Buldhana	1134
8.	Chandrapur	1172
9.	Dhule	2351
10.	Gadchiroli	156
11.	Jalgaon	5013
12.	Jalna	1507
13.	Kolhapur	9572
14.	Latur	2019
15.	Nagpur	12552
16.	Nanded	4004
17.	Nasik	11858
18.	Osmanabad	535
19.	Parbhani	1189
20.	Pune	46567
21.	Raigad	1746
22.	Ratnagiri	1846

17	<i>Written Answers</i>	PAUSA 13, 1912 (SAKA)	<i>Written Answers</i>	18
23.	Sangli		4810	
24.	Satara		4294	
25.	Sindhurg		477	
26.	Solapur		5806	
27.	Thane		28564	
28.	Wardha		1088	
29.	Yeotmal		1049	
30.	Bombay		242657	

STATEMENT - II

Release of Telephone connections in Maharashtra

<i>Name of District</i>	<i>Telephone connections released from 1.1.90 to 30.11.90</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
Raigad	4916	Part of Area Transferred to Kalyan
Gaiara	1274	—
Ahmednagar	1054	—
Ratan Giri	770	Including Sindhurg
Solaur	381	—
Sangli	727	—
Akola	1071	Including Buldhana
Amravati	929	Yavatmal
Bhandara	405	—
Aurangabad	498	Including Jalna
Dhule	372	—
Jalgaon	268	—
Nanded	411	Including Prabhani
Latur	1000	Including Osmanabad & Road

Kolhapur	2369	—
Kalyan	9510	Of Thana Distt. (Thane proper)
Nagpur	2428	—
Nasik	1632	—
Chandrapur	689	Including Wardha & Gadchiroli
Pune (Urban)	8681	—
Pune (Rural)	937	—
Bombay	51585	—

[English]

Identification of New Travel Circuits

*112. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO:
SHRI C. P. MUDALA GIRI-
YAPPA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether eighteen new travel circuits have been identified in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the total circuits identified in the southern States, State-wise;

(c) how these circuits are helpful in the promotion of tourism in the country;

(d) the funds required to develop these circuits; and

(e) the funds allotted by the Union Government so far in this regards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI USHA
SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 18 Extension Circuits have been identified for promotion during the India Tourism Year, 1991 of which eight are in the Southern States. The details of these eight circuits are given as under:-