

was the figure at the beginning of the fourth five year Plan of these persons working abroad?

**SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:** It is during the last four to five years; 5,000 odd people have come back to India and they have been put in positions of employment. With regard to the actual figure at the beginning of the fourth Plan, I am sorry I do not have the figure immediately. Of course, this pool system has been in existence for quite a long time.

As far as the other things are concerned, these have been formulated as part of the science and technology plan which we have evolved. It is only during the last few months that they have been put into operation.

**SHRI K. MALLANNA:** May I know from the hon. Minister how many scientists and technicians have been sent abroad for higher studies at the cost of the Government and how many have come back?

**SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:** I would like to have a separate question.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Next question.

#### **Telephone Connections in Tamil Nadu**

\*248. **SHRI SEZHIYAN:**

**SHRI G. VISWANATHAN:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Telephone connections given in Tamil Nadu during the year 1972-73; and the number of pending applications;

(b) whether there is an abnormal delay in giving Telephone connections after receiving applications; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to speed up the process?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA):**

(a) Particulars of connections given and applications pending in Tamil Nadu P&T Circle and Madras Telephone District during 1972-73 are given below:—

Connections given	.. 10523
Applications pending	.. 15399

(b and (c). In Tamil Nadu P&T Circle most connections are given without much delay after receipt of applications, except in providing long distance connections requiring considerable quantities of stores. Arrangements are being made to provide long distance connections also pending for more than 2 years by March 1974. In Madras Telephone District only 220 applications were pending under OYT scheme on 30-9-73. Even under General category in most exchanges, no applications are pending for over a year. Only in three exchanges, General category applications are pending for longer periods. The time lag in General category is expected to be considerably reduced on expansion of Ambattur, Kellys and Mount Road exchanges in the next two years or so.

**SHRI SEZHIYAN:** Regarding the inordinate delay caused in giving the telephone connections not only in the city of Madras but in the mofussail centres like Coimbatore, Tiruchi, Thanjavur and Madurai, we find that persons have to wait for a longer time, if the Government accepts the theory that only under the OYT system, where the persons are able to come forward, they will be given connections, and those coming under the general category will be denied. I would like to know from the Minister what arrangements have been made specifically to ease the position in the Madras Circle and also in the other parts of Tamil Nadu?

**SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA:** During the current year, we have decided to increase the capacity of the Madras Telephone District itself by 6,000 lines and in the Fifth Plan we have decided that about 70,000 lines in the whole of Tamil Nadu Circle would be given.

**SHRI SEZHIYAN:** About the 6,000 lines, when was it planned and when do they propose to put them into operation? About the 70,000 connections in the whole of Tamil Nadu, may I know whether this will be gone through in a phased way during the Fifth Plan and what will be the yearly number in the next Plan?

**SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA:** I am sorry I could not follow.

**SHRI SEZHIYAN:** You said that 6,000 lines are going to be introduced as an addition in the Madras city. I would like to know when it was planned and when it will be put into effect in the city of Madras. Then, about the 10,000 connections in the whole of Tamil Nadu, during the Fifth Five Year Plan, I would like to know the yearly space-out for this addition.

**THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR):** In 1974-75, as many as 4,800 lines will be added to the Kalamandapam, Adyar and Kellys exchanges. In 1975-76, as many as 3,300 lines will be given.

70,000 for the whole of Madras; out of that as many as 59,000 connections will be given; 11,000 will yet be on hand. I must say that Tamil Nadu is very much easy, compared to other States, in this matter.

**SHRI THA KIRUTTINAN:** Is it a fact that a number of telephone connections are not being provided for want of materials in Tamil Nadu. In my own cases, I have been informed

by the telephone department that materials are not available to provide telephone connections to my residence. If it is so, what was the quantity of material required by the Tamil Nadu circle and what was the amount allotted to Tamil Nadu circle during the current year?

**SHRI RAJ BAHADUR:** Parliament Members are generally given preference and priority. In case there is any difficulty, I shall have it looked into. About other cases, of the 1313 OYT, the 1973 list was current in 11 out of 16 exchanges. That means that all demands under OYT had been met by 30th September, 1973. In the next two months as many as 220 applications have accumulated which are now being processed and they will be met as early as possible. In non OYT general category 11,216 applications are pending. In most of the exchanges the time lag was about a year on 31st March, 1973. In the following exchanges, the Central East, Central West, Madhavaram, Poonamale, Red Hills, the general waiting list has been cleared upto 5th April, 1973, 4th June 1973, 28th February 1973 and 11th July, 1973 respectively.

**AN HON. MEMBER:** He is not referring to Madras city; he is referring to Madurai.

**SHRI RAJ BAHADUR:** About that also, if there is difficulty in equipment, it will be looked into.

**SHRI THA KIRUTTINAN:** I asked whether the delay in connections was due to the non availability of material and if so what quantity was asked for and what quantity was supplied?

**SHRI RAJ BAHADUR:** In certain cases there is difficulty about equipment. We shall try to make it up as early as possible.