

way of supplementaries are suggestions for action. If the hon. Minister gives one reply, then Members try to convert him to their own view by arguments, which ought to take place only on a resolution or a separate motion. No answer need be given to the question.

Shri Narasimhan: might explain.....

Mr. Speaker: I have been able to understand him. Next question.

Mr. Speaker: Question No. 144.

Shri Keshava: May I suggest that question No. 152 may be taken up along with question No. 144, as it relates to the same subject?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: All right.

Re-organisation of Posts and Telegraphs Circles

*144. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the stage at which the proposal to re-organise the Posts and Telegraphs Circles consequent upon the re-organisation of States rests;

(b) when the same is likely to be finalised; and

(c) the number of Circles in the country at present and what would be the number after re-organisation?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (c). There are at present thirteen P. & T. Circle Offices including the Postal Circle at Delhi. There is no proposal at present to have a general re-arrangement of Circle boundaries.

P. & T. Administrative Circle in Mysore

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*152. { **Shri Keshava:**
Shri Thimmaiah:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state whether the Central Government have any proposals at all to constitute a Posts and Telegraphs administrative circle for Karnataka or Mysore?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): Not at present.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Am I to understand that we have given up the idea of having Circles on linguistic basis?

Shri Raj Bahadur: As a matter of fact, these Circles were never organised on the basis of any provincial boundaries; they were organised on the basis of administrative convenience, depending upon the number of post offices and telegraph offices in a particular area and the work emanating therefrom.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Is it a fact that the Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs went into this question and some work was being done about it, but suddenly it was given up?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I might remove one apprehension from the mind of the hon. Member. The question was whether any proposal was under consideration. We have said that at present it is not under consideration. That does not bind us down rigidly to any particular decision. In case a new Circle is necessary on the basis of traffic or the number of post offices, we shall consider the proposition.

Shri Punnoose: Is it not a fact that during the last session of the last Parliament, it was stated in this House from the Government side that reorganisation of posts and telegraphs Circles had been under consideration on the basis of the reorganised States? If so, may I know what has happened to that?