

(b) the number of experimental Post Offices still running at a loss of Rs. 240 per annum after completion of the term of five years; and

(c) the number of Post Offices closed down because of their unremunerative character?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a)

	Manipur	Tripura
(i) No. of experimental post offices opened during the period from 15-8-47 to 31-3-57.	82	120
(ii) No. of those at (i) above made permanent so far.	13	38

(b) Presumably the information is required in respect of experimental post offices still running at a loss exceeding Rs. 240/- per annum after five years of their existence, as those working at a loss of Rs. 240/- p.a. and less are eligible for permanency after two years from the date of their opening. If so, there are 4 such post offices in Manipur and 3 in Tripura.

(c) One, namely, Heirok Part. II Extra Departmental Branch Office in Manipur, as, besides being unremunerative, it was situated within 3 miles of Heirok Part I Extra Departmental Branch Office.

Dredgers

*1194. **Shri A. K. Gopalan:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the need for dredgers and other equipment for rivers have increased;

(b) what are the estimates of Government in regard to the requirements; and

(c) the amount allocated for the said purpose during the Second Five Year Plan?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) It is not possible to make any general statement regarding the need for Dredgers and other equipment, but Government are aware that dredging is a method which helps in increasing and maintaining the necessary depth of water in navigable channels in rivers. The usefulness of dredging will differ from river to river and according to the seasons.

(b) The extent to which navigable channels on various rivers can be improved through dredging is a matter on which Government would like to await the report of the Committee on Inland Water Transport. An estimate of requirements will then be possible.

(c) The Second Five Year Plan for Inland Water Transport includes a provision of Rs. 84 lakhs for building dredgers for the Ganga-Brahmaputra region and Rs. 1 lakh for building snag-clearing boats for operation of the Brahmaputra.

Inter-State Scheme for Control of Yaws

*1195. **Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2547 on the 28th May, 1956 and state:

(a) the amount spent on the inter-State scheme for the control of yaws worked out in Orissa, Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh so far;

(b) the number of patients treated in each State so far;

(c) the equipment supplied for the scheme;

(d) whether they are adequate; and

(e) whether the affected people are responsive and are co-operating with the scheme?

The Minister of Health (Shri Kar-markar): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 97].