

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) (i) Without Post Offices—Two

(ii) Without Telegraph offices. —Seven

(b) (i) The Post Offices at the two places could not be opened as the loss would exceed Rs. 1,000 on each, because of long runner's lines involved. It is however under consideration to open these Post Offices with Mail Motor Services and negotiations with contractors in regard to the subsidy payable are in progress. Post Offices will be opened if inclusive of the subsidy the loss on each post office is within Rs 1,000 P A

(ii) Telegraph facilities have been sanctioned for two of the places, viz, Guhala and Rampur and will be opened as soon as the new lines are erected. Provision for the remaining five places has not been found to be feasible

Road Bridge over Jamuna

*506. **Shri Sumat Prasad:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to construct a road bridge across the Jamuna to facilitate traffic between the Punjab and the Western UP;

(b) if so, how long will it take to materialise and the place where the bridge is likely to be constructed; and

(c) what is the estimated cost of its construction and the proportion in which the States concerned are to contribute towards it?

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

(b) The Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Punjab have agreed to the proposal. The site for the proposed bridge has to be decided upon by them after which the detailed

plans and estimate will be sanctioned and the work taken up.

(c) The bridge is roughly estimated to cost Rs 45 lakhs which will be shared equally by the Governments of India, Uttar Pradesh and Punjab.

Coal Loading Plant

*507. { **Shri Hem Barua:**
Shri Raghunath Singh:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have installed a Mechanical Coal Loading Plant at Calcutta port, and

(b) if so, what is its capacity per hour?

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

(b) The optimum capacity of the plant is 500 tons per hour but, under normal working conditions, it is likely to load only 375 tons per hour

Commemoration Stamps

*508. **Shri Kumaran:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalised details regarding the special issue of stamps to mark the 100th anniversary of India's First Freedom Struggle, and

(b) if so, whether Government have had consultations with the centenary celebration committees in the States before finalising details of issue of such stamps?

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

(b) The details were finalised in consultation with the Central National Committee which was concerned with the All India Programme of celebrations for the 1857 Centenary as also the Stamp Advisory Committee specially appointed for the purpose.