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PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)
OFFICIAL REPORT

2199

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Thursday, 22nd April, 1954.

The House met at a Quarter Past Eight of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

CO-OPERATIVE MILK SUPPLY SCHEME,
PATNA

*1971. Shri Jhulan Sinha: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have sanctioned a loan of Rs. 1 lakh for the co-operative milk supply scheme at Patna;
- (b) the terms and conditions on which the loan has been sanctioned;
- (c) the time when it is actually to be made available to the sponsors of the scheme; and
- (d) how the scheme stands at present?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. 8. Deshmukh): (a) No.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) Does not arise.
- (d) The Bihar Government have been informed that it was not found possible by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research to accede to their request for a loan as it was felt that no research was involved in the scheme which should therefore be financed entirely by the State Government.

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Shri Jhulan Sinha: May I know if the Bihar Government gave any reasons for their part when they approached the Central Government for the loan?

- Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: So far as my Ministry is concerned, an application or request can fall only under the I.C.A.R. schemes, and that is all that I know about it.
- Shri P. C. Bose: May I know if the Central Government has advanced any loan on account of milk supply schemes to any other State?
- **Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** That may fall under a different category than the I.C.A.R.
- Shri T. S. A. Chettiar: Under what category does the Central Government give support for milk cooperative societies?
- Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: There is a certain amount of provision for helping co-operative endeavour in the Five Year Plan.. Recently we have tried to allocate some money for helping the establishment of dairies, but the schemes have not yet been started.

TELEGRAPH OFFICES

- *1972. Shri S. C. Samanta: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:
- (a) how many telegraph offices were epened in 1953-54;
- (b) how many of them are in rural areas and how many in urban areas;and
- (c) how many applications were received for opening telegraph offices during that period?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be furnished as soon as it becomes available.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know what relaxations in opening rural post offices have already been given and what relaxations Government propose to give in future?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Does the hon. Member mean telegraph offices or post offices.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Yes.

Shri Raj Bahadur: To begin with, every district headquarters will be connected with telegraph and telephone or a post office will be converted into a combined office. Then in the case of sub-divisional or tehsil headquarters, we propose to establish telegraph facilities in case the amount of loss does not exceed Rs. 1,000 per annum, if there is no telegraph office within a radius of five miles.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether any relaxation in the guarantee with regard to opening telegraph offices has been given?

Shri Raj Bahadur: It has been given in the case of State Governments who moot the proposal and for that purpose they can pool the revenue and expenditure of all P. & T. offices which they propose te guarantee so that guarantee is taken in respect of the difference between the revenue from and expenditure on all the proposed offices put together. Then for the Assam area we have relaxed the conditions further—in all six stations.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether State Governments will derive any benefit by enjoying this privilege?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Yes. And I know of one case—Bombay.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Which are those 6 district headquarters stations which could not fulfil the conditions of 5,000 population or loss of less than Rs. 500 that have been given relaxation under these rules?

Shri Raj Bahadur: One in Orissa and five in Assam area. That was more because of the difficulty of terrain and accessibility of the Headquarters of those districts. We are taking steps however to take the Telegraph there also.

INSURANCE POLICIES OF DISPLACED PERSON

*1974. Shri R. N. Singh: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government of India will accept the liability for the Postal Life Insurance Policies of those displaced persons who have migrated to the Indian Union after 31st March, 1948;
- (b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, whether Government will take up this matter with the Government of Pakistan and treat this question on a par with the evacuee property question;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the Government of Pakistan have recently amended their Postal Life Insurance rules under which the policies of these displaced persons will be forfeited; and
- (d) whether Government have received any representation in this regard?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur); (a) No.

- (b) The Government of Pakistan have recently agreed to the settlement of claims on account of such policies (matured as well as the capitalised value of unmatured policies) through the Central Claims Organisation.
- (c) The Government of India have no information in the matter.