

*[Translation]***Complaints regarding non-availability of Wheat**

3338. SHRI SUKH LAL KUSHWAHA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received some complaints regarding non-availability of wheat through public distribution system during the last few months;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures being taken by the Union Government to overcome the shortage of wheat in the public distribution system?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTIONS (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

*[English]***Encroachment of Posts & Telegraph land in Assam**

3339. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the land belonging to the Department of Posts and Telegraph has been encroached upon by outsiders in Kamrup, Nagaon and Lakhimpur districts of Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the names of places; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to get the land vacated?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Recommendations of Committee on E.D. Employees

3340. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR:
PROF. P.J. KURIEN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Extra-Departmental employees in the Postal Department in the country;

(b) whether a Committee was constituted for better service conditions of ED employees;

(c) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the said Committee;

(d) the time by which these are likely to be implemented;

(e) whether the Government propose to announce interim benefits for them immediately;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the recommendations will be included in the Vth Pay Commission Report; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) As on 31.3.1995, the number of ED employees was 3,08,623.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Though the final report of the Committee is awaited, three interim recommendations have been received as follows:

(i) payment of interim relief to ED employees—since implemented,

(ii) compensating ED employees for detention beyond normal duty hours, and

(iii) Merger of 97% DA with basic allowances for the purpose of enhancing the amount of Ex-gratia Gratuity paid to ED Employees.

(d) Recommendations (c)(i) already implemented. C (ii) and (iii) involve financial implications and a decision has to be taken in consultation with the other concerned Ministries which will take approximately six months.

(e) and (f). Interim relief has already been given. There is no proposal at present to announce further interim benefits.

(g) No, Sir.

(h) The question does not arise.

Communication facilities in Rural Areas

3341. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any uniform policy for providing Communication facilities like Post Offices, installation