

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken any measures to strengthen that machinery; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, and the results achieved so far?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d). As the enforcement of Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 rests with the State/UT governments, they are expected to have strong suitable enforcement machinery themselves for this purpose. With a view to upgrading the functional efficiency of enforcement personnel at the State level, the V.V. Giri National Labour Institute, NOIDA and four state labour institutes have undertaken programmes for training of labour and factory inspectors. So far, 598 inspectors have been trained.

[Translation]

Residential Schools for Spastic And Handicapped Children

1729. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to open residential schools for spastic and handicapped children in various parts of the country.

(b) if so, whether the Government are considering to open a residential school in Purnea, Bihar; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) No, Sir. However, Residential Schools for Spastics and handicapped children set up and run by Non-Governmental Organisations are assisted financially by the Government to the extent provided under the scheme under which the application has been submitted by the concerned non-Governmental Organisation.

(b) and (c). No such proposal is under consideration.

[English]

Branch Post Offices and Sub-Post Offices

1730. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the number of Branch Post Offices and Sub-Post Offices sanctioned/set up during each of the last three years, State-wise year-wise and till date?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : The details of number of Extra-Departmental Branch Post Offices and Departmental Sub-Post Offices sanctioned during the last three years and till date, year-wise and Post Circle-wise are given in the Statement enclosed.

STATEMENT

Details of Number of Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices & Departmental Sub Post Offices Sanctioned During Last three Years And Till Date, Postal Circle-wise And year-wise

S.No.	Name of Circles	No. of Post Offices sanctioned during							
		1993-94		1994-95		1995-96		1996-97	
		EDBOS	DSOS	EDBOS	DSOS	EDBOS	DSOS	EDBOS	DSOS
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	12	7	-	4	2	3	1	-
2.	Assam	26	6	-	1	-	1	-	-
3.	Bihar	90	5	-	1	-	2	-	3
4.	Delhi	-	8	-	1	-	2	-	2
5.	Gujarat	15	5	-	2	-	1	-	3
6.	Haryana	16	5	-	-	1	2	-	3
7.	Himachal Pradesh	90	2	-	1	-	2	-	-
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	23	1	-	-	-	2	-	-
9.	Karnataka	15	8	1	3	-	3	1	-
10.	Kerala	30	5	-	3	-	14	-	3
11.	Madhya Pradesh	30	5	-	4	-	3	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
12.	Maharashtra	30	19	-	4	-	3	-	3
13.	North-East	40	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
14.	Orissa	42	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
15.	Punjab	7	7	1	1	1	3	-	1
16.	Rajasthan	30	5	2	-	-	6	-	-
17.	Tamil Nadu	8	4	-	2	-	3	-	-
18.	Uttar Pradesh	93	13	-	4	-	3	-	2
19.	West Bengal	20	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total		667	115	4	31	4	53	2	20

* EDBOS : Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices

** DSOS : Departmental Sub Post Offices

Supply of Poor Quality Food

1731. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether complaints have been received by the Government regarding poor quality of food being served on Indian Airlines and Alliance Airlines Flights;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last year and the current year so far; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. During the year 1995 and 1996 (upto May, 96), 551 and 297 complaints were received respectively. The complaints were attended to without delay and immediate remedial action was taken, where called for.

Regional Language Films

1732. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to promote regional language films; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b). The Government has taken several supportive measures for the growth of Hindi as well as Regional language films in the country. Every year 21 feature and 21 non-feature films of cinematic thematic and aesthetic excellence are selected for the Indian Panorama section of the International Film Festival of India. This includes Regional Language films

also. The Government has also instituted Annual National Film Awards in different disciplines of cinema to encourage production of films of aesthetic excellence and social relevance, contributing to the understanding and appreciation of the film culture of different regions of the country. The Government further recommends the Panorama and National Film Festival award winning films to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations for exemption from entertainment tax. Besides, the Government has set up organisations like National Film Development Corporation which promotes production of Regional language films and almost 50% of the films financed by it are in Regional languages. Doordarshan also telecasts the Regional feature films on National network, DD-III, Movie Club and the respective Regional Kendras in their terrestrial network as well as Regional Satellite Channels.

Wages For Daily Wage Employees

1733. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the minimum wages fixed for daily-wage employees; State-wise

(b) when these wages were fixed last; and

(c) the time by which these wages are likely to be revised?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). A statement indicating the available information on range of minimum wages for unskilled category of workers and the date of revision for the last revised scheduled employment in different States/Union Territories is enclosed.

(c) It is for the appropriate Government to revise the minimum of wages as per the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948.