

[English]

Opening of Telegraph and Post Offices in Pune District of Maharashtra

4013. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for opening of telegraph and post offices in Pune District of Maharashtra during 1990-91;

(b) whether the target has been fully achieved and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the number of telegraph and post offices likely to be opened during 1991-92?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) A target of 4 Telegraph offices and 6 Post Offices was fixed for Pune District for the year 1990-91.

(b) One Telegraph Office and 5 Post Offices have been opened. The delay in opening the remaining offices has been due to non-availability of suitable accommodation.

(c) It is proposed to open 3 Telegraph Offices and 10 Post Offices in Pune District during the year 1991-92.

Conversion of Telephone Exchanges into Electronics in Pune

4014. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of electronic and other telephone exchanges in Pune, Maharashtra;

(b) whether there is any proposal to convert all the exchanges into electronic one;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action proposed to be taken in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) There are 15 exchanges in Pune, out of which 5 are electronic exchanges.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Because all the non-electronic exchanges are not due for replacement.

Mechanisation and Automation of Postal Operations

4015. SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATTANAYAK:
SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to mechanise and automate the postal operations in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and States and Union Territories which will be covered under this scheme; and

(c) if so, the time by which the work is likely to be completed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) There is a proposal to instal counter machines in selected Post Offices. There is also a proposal to instal mail sorting machines in Bombay.

(b) The list of selected Post Offices is not yet finalised.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Opening of New Branch Post Offices in Himachal Pradesh

4016. PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the district-wise details of the proposals for opening the new branch post offices and upgrading the existing branch post offices into sub post offices in Himachal Pradesh during 1990-91; and

(b) the details of those proposals cleared so far?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) The detailed information is furnished in the attached Statement.

STATEMENT

Details of Proposals for opening the new Branch Post Offices and upgrading the present branch Post Offices into Departmental Sub Post Offices in Himachal Pradesh during 1990-91.

New Post Offices

Sl. No.	District	Name of the proposed Post Offices
1.	Bilaspur	Janail
2.		Ser
3.	Hemirpur	Berdh
4.	Kangra	Nachhr
5.		Gadhiera
6.		Mandshad
7.	Una	Batuhi
8.	Mandi	Khalchriana
9.		Dohag
10.		Lower Ghaneala
11.		Bag
12.		Kot
13.	Shimla	Chaily
14.		Erra
15.	Sirmour	Misserwala
16.		Gwell
17.		Radi
18.	Solan	Koti
19.		Bhood
20.		Kaliberi
21.		Matera
22.	Kullu	Sechni
23.		Neoli
24.	Chamba	Taragarh
25.		Krwangl

All these proposals have been cleared and Post Offices opened.

Upgradation

No proposal to upgrade any branch post office into Sub Post Office was received during 1990-91.

[English]

Subsistence Allowance to Extra Departmental Employees

4017. PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Extra Departmental Employees under put-off-duty for more than forty-five days as on March 31, 1991;

(b) whether the Government propose to provide them subsistence allowance;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(b) to (d) The issue whether the Extra Departmental Agents are entitled to the payment of subsistence allowance during the put-off duty period is pending judicial scrutiny in the Supreme Court of India. The whole matter is thus subjudice.

Agro-Based Industries

4018. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government have submitted proposals to the Union Government for setting up of Agro-based Industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Ongoing Irrigation Projects in Bihar

4019. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the ongoing major and medium irrigation projects in Bihar;

(b) the progress made on those projects as on June 30, 1991; and

(c) the time by which those are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c) A statement giving details of appraised on-going major and medium irrigation projects of Bihar is attached.