

(b) if so, the main features thereof and the reaction of Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN): (a). No Sir. The Commission is expected to submit its report by the end of April, 1973.

(b) does not arise.

Production of Silk (Tasar) in West Bengal

7372. SHRI GADADHAR SAHA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state

(a) what has been done so far for improvement and development of Silk (Tasar) industries in Murshidabad and Birbhum in West Bengal,

(b) whether the State Government of West Bengal have been advised to develop a scheme there for proper study and improvement of the industries and proper cultivation of raw material if so, the progress so far achieved for this industry and

(c) the names of the scheme under which financial assistances has been sought or is being sought and given and the amount given?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ZIAUR RAHMAN ANSARI) (a). There is no production of tasar silk in Murshidabad District. Efforts are being made to introduce tasar culture in Birbhum District. One Grainage for production of disease-free tasar seed, and one Training Centre for imparting training in tasar spinning on improved machines have been set up.

(b) and (c). There is one scheme for development of tasar industry in the State of West Bengal. The ob-

ject of the scheme is to demonstrate improved methods of Tasar rearings and to distribute disease free tasar layings to the rearers. An expenditure of Rs. 1.57 lakhs was incurred during the Third Plan. During 1973-74 a sum of Rs 50,000/- will be provided by the State Government out of the 'Plan' allocations for the year

Conversion of Branch Post Offices in Birbhum District West Bengal

7373 SHRI GADADHAR SAHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) the number of Branch Post Offices and Sub-Post Offices being converted/upgraded into Sub-Post Offices and Head Post Offices in Birbhum District in West Bengal and the conditions laid down for such upgradation

(b) what are the criteria for opening (Branch) Post offices under the N R money deposit scheme, and

(c) the guidelines to be followed during departmental enquiry into proposal for opening new Post Offices in determining the postal income of the area under existing post office?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA):

(a) Branch post offices proposed to be upgraded to Sub-post offices during 1973-74 .. 7.

Sub-post offices proposed to be upgraded to Head Post Offices during 1973-74...NIL.