

postal services in semi-urban and rural areas;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the measures proposed for provision of adequate postal services in rural areas of Maharashtra in general and Vidharbha region in particular; and

(d) the details of proposals received, district-wise, from Vidharbha region of Maharashtra regarding opening of new sub-post offices in rural areas and provision of additional postal facilities in semi-urban and urban areas and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K. P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

#### **Advisory Panels on Rural Employment Schemes**

4675. SHRI R. MUTHIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have issued any directives to constitute advisory panels consisting of people's representatives to select and supervise the works and schemes, particularly rural employment schemes which are financed by the Centre and executed by the States; and

(b) if so, the composition of such advisory panels?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) and (b). The important rural em-

ployment schemes of the Government are planned and implemented through District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs) in the case of most of the States. The Governing Council of DRDAs comprise, inter-alia, of all the Members of Parliament and Members of State Legislatures, of the district. Thus, the people's representatives are involved in the planning and implementation of rural employment schemes.

Under the wage employment programme, panchayats have a very important role to play in selecting and supervising the schemes. Under the major self-employment programme the gram sabhas are to approve the selection of eligible families.

#### **Declaration of Calicut-Bangalore Road as National Highway**

4676. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for declaration of Calicut-Bangalore road via Kunnamangalam, Tiruvampadi, Anakkampoyil Meppadi, Ambalavayal, Bathery and Mysore as National Highway; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K. P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) and (b). the inclusion of (i) Calicut (Kozhikode)-Mysore and (ii) Tellicherry-Coorg-mysore-Bangalore roads in the National Highway network are under the active consideration of the Ministry.

The proposals are still being processed.

#### **Poduval Committee Recommendations on Agro-Economic Research Centres**

4677. DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether government have taken any decision on the recommendations of the Poduval Committee on Agro-Economic Research Centres; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and when these recommendations are proposed to be implemented?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) and (b). The recommendations of the Poduval Committee on Agro-Economic Research Centres were considered by the empowered Committee appointed by the Government of India. The recommendations of the Empowered Committee have been accepted, and are being implemented on a selective basis in stages.

#### **Rural Water Schemes in Tamil Nadu**

4678. SHRI E.S.M. PAKEER MOHAMED: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the projects approved for Rural Water schemes in Tamil Nadu, district-wise:

(b) whether government of Tamil Nadu has approached the Union Government for financial assistance over and above the budget allocations for implementing these schemes and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the projects implemented so far under these schemes?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) The Govt. of India has given technical clearance for schemes for 2275 habitations under the Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) during 1988-89 and 1989-90 at an estimated cost of Rs. 31.33 crores. The district-wise details are given in attached Statement - I.

(b) The State Government had requested for additional assistance of Rs. 3 crores in March 1990 over and above the allocation under ARWSP for 1989-90.

(c) The details of the projects implemented upto February, 1990 are given in attached Statement - II.