

(c) Yes, Sir. There is a proposal to establish a high power TV transmitter at Ajmer which is under the Active consideration of the Government.

(d) In anticipation of the approval, the site has been taken over and orders for equipment have also been placed. It would take about three to four years after the scheme has been formally approved.

[English]

#### Modernisation of IISCO

223. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:  
SHRI SANAT KUMAR  
MANDAL:  
SHRI ASHT BHUJA PRASAD  
SHUKLA:  
DR. SUDHIR RAY:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Modernisation of IISCO is not likely to be taken up by the Steel Authority of India Limited till the repayment of its loans and investments;

(b) whether the Government have also been thinking of handing over IISCO to a private party as favored by the Shankar Committee; and

(c) the decision taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) It has not been possible for Government to take an investment decision for Modernisation of IISCO by the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) basically due to inadequate availability of plan funds and internal resources with SAIL and IISCO.

(b) and (c). Among the various options, Government are considering a proposal for seeking private participation in the modernisation of

IISCO. Government had constituted a Committee of Experts (COE) to obtain bids for private participation in Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited (IISCO), with the objective of modernising/expanding IISCO to a crude steel capacity of 1.5 million tonnes per annum in a cost-and time effective manner. The recommendations of the COE are currently under examination and a decision will be taken in due course.

[Translation]

#### Alleged Cheating in Speed Post Centres

224. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR  
SHARMA:  
SHRI RAM BADAN:  
SHRI JANARDHAN MISRA:  
DR. LAXMINARAYAN  
PANDEYA:  
SHRICHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item caption 'Speed Post Kendro per Bhari Dhokhadadi' appearing in the 'Navbharat Times' dated May 17, 1993 under the caption 'Dak Gharo Main Videshi Nagriko se Dhokha Dhari';

(b) if so, the results of the investigations conducted in this regard; and

(c) the disciplinary action taken against those found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Report in Navbharat Times dated 13-5-93 captioned 'Speed Post Kendron Per Bhari Dhoka Dhadi' has come to notice. Report captioned 'Dal Gharo Main Videshi Nagriko Se Dhoka Dhadi' in the same newspaper dated 17-5-93 has also come to notice.

(b) and (c). (i) During investigations into a

complaint regarding overcharging of Speed Post articles, two officials of Indraprastha Head Post office New Delhi were found charging Rs. 10/- extra for the articles for which rates were reduced w.e.f. 18-1-93. The complaint was allowed refund of Rs. 30/-. Both the officials were placed under suspension and disciplinary proceedings have been initiated against them.

(ii) Parcels No. 8416 and 8417 for Japan were booked from Connaught Place Post Office in 1986 and on investigation, the booking clerk was found to have overcharged the sender to the extent of Rs. 200/-. The sender was ascertained to be the representative of a local firm.

No Parcel number 0412 was found booked for Canada during the last three years from Connaught Place Post Office.

Air parcel service for Fiji was restricted on 12-11-90 by the counter clerk Connaught Place Post Office, being unaware booked six parcels to that country. These parcels were received back and delivered to the sender. A refund of Rs. 1425/- towards postage was also given to him on 1-11-91.

The officials found guilty in both the cases were suitably punished.

### **Projects in joint Sector**

225. SHRI SIMON MARANDI: Will the

**Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES** be pleased to state:

(a) the details projects to be set up by the Union and States Governments in the joint Sector during the Eighth Plan?

(b) the details of assistance given for these projects in each State; and

(c) the details of projects being run in Bihar in the Jointly Sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c). The Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not set up Food Processing Industries directly in any State. However, this Ministry has formulated several Plan schemes for the Eighth Plan for providing assistance to State Government Organisations, Joint Sector Companies, Cooperatives Societies, Voluntary Agencies etc. for setting up/upgrading Food Processing Industries. The outlay approved by Planning Commission for these schemes during the Eighth Plan is Rs. 146 crores. During the first year of the Eighth Plan i.e. 1992-93, the details of Financial Assistance extended in this regard is given at statement attached. M/s. Bihar Fruit and Vegetable Development Cooperation, Patna has been established with the equity assistance from Central Government during the Sixth Plan.