

and 2500 telegraph offices in the country during 1980-81. These figures are subject to modification in the light of the revised Five Year Plan 1980-85 as may be finally approved by the Planning Commission.

(b) The number of post offices tentatively proposed to be opened in Maharashtra State during 1980-81 district-wise is as follows:—

S.No.	District	No. of Post offices proposed to be opened
1.	Ahmednagar	7
2.	Akola	10
3.	Amravati	25
4.	Aurangabad	15
5.	Beed	10
6.	Buldana	10
7.	Bhandara	13
8.	Chanda	30
9.	Dhule	25
10.	Jalgaon	5
11.	Kolaba	30
12.	Kolhapur	35
13.	Nagpur	12
14.	Nanded	10
15.	Nasik	35
16.	Osmanabad	17
17.	Parbhani	10
18.	Pune	15
19.	Ratnagiri	54
20.	Sangli	2
21.	Satara	30
22.	Sholapur	5
23.	Thane	55
24.	Wardha	17
25.	Yestmal	18

The number of telegraph offices tentatively proposed to be opened in Maharashtra State District-wise during 1980-81 is given below:—

Sl.	District	No. of telegraph offices proposed to be opened
1.	Ahmednagar	12
2.	Aurangabad	10
3.	Amravati	13
4.	Alibagh	6
5.	Akola	7
6.	Bhandara	12
7.	Bhir	12
8.	Buldhana	8
9.	Chando	12
10.	Dhulja	25
11.	Jalgaon	26
12.	Kolhapur	25
13.	Nanded	9
14.	Nagpur	12
15.	Nasik	14
16.	Osmanabad	19
17.	Parbhani	10
18.	Pune	15
19.	Ratnagiri	25
20.	Sangli	20
21.	Satara	17
22.	Sholepur	
23.	Thana	10
24.	W adha	12
25.	Yeotmal	13

Extra departmental workers

119. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that a large number of extra-departmental workers of post and

telegraph department are working within a slave system of service and getting very poor remuneration against their work;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these extra-departmental workers are deprived of the general facilities of the service conditions which other sections of ployees are enjoying; and

(c) the proposals of the Government to regularise their services and to improve their service conditions?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI C. M. STEPHEN)

(a) It is not correct to say that the Extra Departmental Agents are "working within a slave system of service." They are free to resign from service at any time at their option. The remuneration of the Extra Departmental Agents is fixed, taking into consideration their workload and responsibilities. The remuneration payable to them is also reviewed once in two years and the last upward revision was done as on 1-9-1979. The Government, therefore, does not accept that they are getting very poor remuneration.

(b) The Extra Departmental Agents are part-time employees and they are free to take up other avocations. Their service conditions cannot be the same as those of full time employees of the Government.

(c) There is no proposal to absorb all the Extra Departmental Agents as regular employees of the Department. Adequate opportunities have already been provided to Extra Departmental employees for their selection to Group 'D' posts and posts in postmen's cadre. The Government is also alive to the need to improve the service conditions of Extra Departmental Agents and they are subjected to constant review.

Handing over of the Travancore House to Kerala Government by the Centre

120. **SHRI K. A. RAJAN:** Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kerala State Government has requested the Centre to hand over Travancore House in New Delhi to the State Government; and

(b) if so, the decision of the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

Closure of Chilling Plants and Manufacture of Milk Products by Delhi Milk Scheme

121. **SHRI K. A. RAJAN:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether nearly 30 chilling centres in U.P., Haryana and Rajasthan for processing and pasturising milk for the D.M.S. have been closed down;

(b) whether the manufacture of D.M.S. products like cheese, butter, ghee and ice cream have been stopped;

(c) whether some of the plants and machinery of the Delhi Milk Scheme has been either auctioned or transferred to Amul Dairy at Anand in Gujarat;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether Government have any proposal to wind up the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) Twenty Chilling Centres in U.P., Haryana and Rajasthan, were closed.