

(b) whether such scheme is proposed to be launched in the current financial year;

(c) if so, the amount earmarked for the purpose; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir, some such schemes have already been started.

(c) For the current financial year (1985-86), Rs. 1 crore has been earmarked by Delhi Administration, in addition to various contributions available to all States, under National Project on Biogas Development, National programme of development of improved chulhas and other programmes of the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources. For family based biogas plants and improved chulhas, Central subsidy, cost of training programme etc. will be released as per provision laid down on the basis of number of plants constructed.

(d) During the current financial year, it is proposed to established Solar Water Heating Systems of 1 lakh literes capacity, distribute 5000 solar cookers, install 25 windpumps, construct 150 biogas plants, distribute 50,000 wood stoves and fix 5,000 improved chulhas. Four Battery buses are under trial in congested area of old Delhi to reduce pollution. For the pilot plant for power from municipal waste is to be set up at Timarpur. Civil works are presently in progress and erection of equipment will start from December, 1985. When commissioned, it will incinerate 300 MT of refuse per day and generate 3.75 MW electricity.

#### Opening of Central Telegraph Office at Ghazipur

306. SHRI ZAINUL BASHER Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the progress regarding opening of

Central Telegraph Office and Microwave Station at Ghazipur, Uttar Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : As regards the Departmental Telegraph Office, the position is that it is likely to be opened by February, 1986 after required alteration are effected by the land-lord of the building which is under negotiation. As for the microwave station, it is likely to materialise during the Seventh Five Year Plan.

#### Public Call Offices in every Hexagon of 5 Kilometers during Seventh Five Year Plan

307. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have finalised any programme for the provision of a Public Call Office in every hexagon of 5 K.M. each during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the number of hexagons into which each State/Union Territory has been divided and the targets for the first year of Plan; and

(c) if not, the likely date by which the programme would be finalised and the reasons for delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Due to limited plan funds, it is proposed to provide Long Distance Public Call Offices in about 1/3rd (9000) of the balance 5 K.M. hexagons yet to be provided with telephone facility during the Seventh Five Year Plan.

(b) The information is given as per the statement given below.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Statement

*Statement of inhabited Hexagons as on 31-3-1985 and targets for 1985-86*

Circle	Total No. of inhabited Hexogons	Targets for 1985-86
1	2	3
1. Andhra Pradesh	4991	150
2. Bihar	4740	250

1	2	3
3. Gujarat	2387	100
4. J and K	727	30
5. Karnataka	3648	200
6. Kerala	546	—
7. Madhya Pradesh	6103	10
8. Maharashtra	4842	200
9. North East	3308	50
10. North West	2023	120
11. Orissa	2110	100
12. Rajasthan	6193	220
13. Tamil Nadu	1672	50
14. Uttar Pradesh	6318	200
15. West Bengal	2602	120
<b>Total</b>	52210	2000

Note : Total No. of inhabited hexagons are being re-verified by GM's Telecom., and the final number is likely to change marginally in some cases.

#### Opening of New Branch Post Offices

308. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any target for the opening of new Branch Post Offices had been fixed for each State/Union Territory for the Sixth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the number of Branch Post Offices targeted for opening States/Union Territories, year-wise and the reasons for shortfall;

(c) whether preference would be given to the opening of Branch Post Offices at all such places as were approved for this purpose during the first year of the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(d) if so, the number of Branch Post Offices targeted of opening in the year 1985-86 and the number of such among them as were approved in Sixth Plan and could not be opened during the period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a)

Targets for opening of New Branch Post Offices in rural areas under the Sixth Plan were fixed for each postal circle for each Annual Plan.

(b) Circle-wise Annual Plan targets covering the Sixth Plan and shortfalls are furnished in statement No. 1—Shortfall during 1983-84 and 1984-85 were caused by the ban imposed by Government on creation of new posts. The shortfall of 2 post offices in the Delhi Circle for the year 1980-81 was due to lack of sufficient number of eligible proposals and of one in Bihar Circle in 1982-83 was of a marginal nature and there was no particular reason for the same.

(c) Generally, when targets are assigned for each Annual Plan, proposals approved in the previous years but not given effect to are considered for opening in preference to new cases.

(d) The Circle-wise targets for opening of post offices under Annual Plan 1985-86 are indicated in statement II. However no decision has been taken in regard to villages in which post offices are to be opened against these targets on account of the ban on creation of posts in force.