

**Introduction of Scheme for Licensed  
Postal Agentes**

1402. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the date on which the Department of Posts has introduced the scheme for Licensed Postal Agentes;

(b) the names of the places, circle-wise, (State-wise in case of multi-State circles) where such Agents have been appointed in rural, Semi-urban and urban areas;

(c) whether the scheme is proposed to be speeded up in view of the ban on the recruitment to new posts and consequently on the opening of new Branch Offices so as to cater to the needs of genuine cases;

(d) if so, the nature of the speeding up proposed in this regard; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The scheme has been introduced with effect from 16-8-85;

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The scheme of licensed Postal Agents is to be introduced in areas where according to the assessment made by the divisional superintendents of Post Offices, the said facility is required. It is not linked with the ban on recruitment to new posts and consequent non-opinion of post offices.

**Introduction of Store and Forward  
Telegraph System**

1403. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the store and forward

telegraph (SFT) system has been introduced in the country so as to curtail transitional delays and quicken transmission of telegraph traffic;

(b) if so, the names of stations, circle-wise, at which the systems have been installed alongwith the dates on which these were installed;

(c) whether the system is proposed to be extended in a phased manner so as to cover the entire country;

(d) if so, the names of stations at which the system would be introduced during the Seventh Five Year Plan and the current Annual Plan (1985-86) separately; and

(e) whether any priority is proposed to be given to hill station states regions in view of importance of communication to such areas and the nature of priority ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes Sir, SFT Systems have been introduced in the country so as to curtail transit delays and quicken transmission of Telegraph Traffic.

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

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) It is proposed to instal such systems at Varanasi, Lucknow, Bhopal, Cuttack and Siliguri and during current annual plan (1985-86)—first year of the Seventh Five Year Plan. During Remaining four year of the Seventh Five Year Plan, it is proposed to introduce such SFT Systems at about 25 more stations. For this purpose, 8 stations have been identified tentatively based on traffic analysis for installation of such systems. These stations are Indore, Jabalpur, Chandigarh, Jammu, Rajkot, Vadodara, Nagpur and Pune. Remaining Stations are being identified.

(e) Hill stations and Telegraph Offices in such areas will be linked to the SFT systems as terminals wherever the Traffic justifies.