

(SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) A Statement indicating the alphabetical list of sub-divisional headquarters linked by Microwave or UHF system in the country is given below.

(b) Efforts will be made to extend such facilities to sub-divisional headquarters in the country including Ranikhet during next Plan.

STATEMENT

List of Sub divisional Headquarters linked by Microwave/UHF media.

1. Alipurduar
2. Berhampur
3. Baramati
4. Badagata
5. Bagalkot
6. Bantwal
7. Champakhowa
8. Chibalapur
9. Dharmaland
10. Diamond Harbour
11. Durgapur
12. Fazilka
13. Gadag
14. Jagraon
15. Kalka
16. Katni
17. Kalimpong
18. Moga
19. Nangal
20. Puttur
21. Pallai

22. Punaloor

23. Rourkela

24. Shertalai

25. Sirsi

26. Udipi.

Setting up of New DET Offices at Almora and Gonda in Uttar Pradesh

1451. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up some new D.E.T. offices in Uttar Pradesh during the present plan period;

(b) if so, the names of the places where these are proposed to be opened;

(c) whether Almora and Gonda in Uttar Pradesh have also been included under this scheme; and

(d) if so, time by which these offices are likely to be opened there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At Almora and Gonda.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) the justification for these posts is being examined to see whether they can be sanctioned in relaxation of the ban on creation of posts.

[English]

Zonal Office of FCI For N.E. Zone at Guwahati

1452. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal from Government of Assam for setting up of a Zonal

Office of the Food Corporation of India for the North Eastern Zone at Guwahati was received by his Ministry; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal has been considered and keeping in view the heavy financial implications involved and the need for economy, the same has not been found to be feasible.

Production of Molasses In Orissa

1454. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the production of molasses in Orissa and especially at Aska;

(b) the names of ancillary industries to which the molasses are supplied and what is their annual demand;

(c) whether there is a shortage of molasses; and

(d) if so, the measures being taken to meet the demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) As per the report received from the Government of Orissa, the production of molasses during current season upto April 1987 in Orissa was 29,483 tonnes and that in Aska Sugar Industry was 8362 tonnes.

(b) and (c). Apart from conversion into alcohol by distilleries for potable and industrial use, molasses are also used for such purposes as manufacture of Citric Acid, cattle feed, poultry feed and fodder, binders in the Foundries, and for mixing in Tobacco etc. As per the information

received from the Government of Orissa, the demand for current alcohol year has been estimated at 50,000 tonnes, as against local availability of 15,000 tonnes, causing a shortage of 35,000 tonnes.

(d) the demand of State is sought to be met through allocation of molasses that may be surplus by another State, as and when such surpluses are declared.

Public Distribution System in Cooperative and Private Sectors In Orissa

1455. SHRI SOMNATH RATH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fair price shops in co-operative sector and private sector in Orissa,

(b) whether Government of Orissa has utilised all the Central assistance given during the last three years, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to issue any directives to Government of Orissa to allot fair price shops to co-operatives instead of individuals?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) There were 4802 Fair Price Shops in the Cooperative Sector and 14569 Fair Price Shops in the Private Sector as on 31.3.1987 in Orissa.

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

(c) There is no such proposal. However, guidelines for strengthening the Public Distribution System have been issued to all the States/UT Governments including Orissa, suggesting, *inter-alia*, that where new Fair Price Shops are to be opened, preference be given to the Cooperatives.