

a post office served on average an area of 22.83 sq. kms. and a population of 4,758. In the following States/Union Territories the average area served by a post office was larger than the all India average.

Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Sikkim and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

In the following States/Union Territories the average population served by a post office was more than the all India average.

Bihar, Delhi, Diu, Kerala, Mahe, Maharashtra, Assam, Chandigarh, Haryana, Pondicherry, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

This analysis by itself cannot be construed as 'deficiency' in postal facilities as Post Offices are sanctioned subject to satisfaction of certain norms pertaining to population, distance, anticipated revenue and the amount of loss.

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

(d) The department has recently formulated certain new guidelines in this regard according to which inter alia, priority will be given to gram panchayats which have no post office. This priority will however be subject to fulfillment of the prescribed norms relating to population, distance from nearest post office, anticipated revenue and the amount of loss.

Raichur Thermal Power Station

1465. SHRI NARSING SURYA-WANSHI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the production in Raichur Thermal Power Station is falling below expectation;

(b) whether Karnataka Government

have sent any proposal to buy diesel generating sets to tide over the power shortage in the State;

(c) whether the proposal has been cleared by Government; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) The energy generation in the Raichur Thermal Power Station during April-October, 1987 was 1161 million units against the target of 1172 million units. The shortfall was marginal.

(b) to (d) The proposal for installation of diesel generating sets with an aggregate capacity of 77.76 MW has been sanctioned for execution in the State sector.

[Translation]

Fixing of new limit for storage of wheat and rice

1466. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to fix new limit for storage of wheat and rice;

(b) if so, whether Government have issued instructions to State Governments in this regard; and

(c) if so, the reaction of State Governments thereon and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b) The Central Government has no proposal to fix specific limits. However, on account of the unprecedented drought in the country, the State Governments were advised to have stock-limits for wheat and rice, wherever and to the extent necessary, to prevent hoarding.

(c) Does not arise as no limits were proposed.

[English]

Complaints against LPG dealers in Delhi

1467. SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL ;
SHRIMATI PATEL RAMA-
BEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry or Oil Companies have received a large number of complaints regarding malpractices, illegal activities, corruption, delay in supply of refills, etc. against the gas dealers of Delhi during 1 August, 1987 to 31 October, 1987;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken to prevent such malpractices and the outcome thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA-DUTT) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A total of about 1225 complaints were received by the Oil Companies against the LPG distributors of Delhi during the period from August 1, 1987 to October, 31, 1987. These complaints relate mainly to delayed supply of refills, rude behaviour by the distributors' staff and supply of under-weight refills;

(c) The complaints received by the Oil Companies against LPG distributors are investigated wherever necessary, and appropriate action, ranging from warning letters to even termination of distributorships in some cases, is taken against the erring LPG distributors in accordance with the marketing Discipline Guidelines.

Sal seeding processing industry

1468. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANI-
GRAHI : Will the Minister of FOOD

AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Sal seeding processing industry in Orissa which has been lying idle during crushing season this year as a result of the raw material being kept in storage due to an interim court order, has sought price relief from Government; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF
FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI
H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b) Sal seeds of 1987 crop have already been allocated to local industry. Interim court order has been vacated, consequent on dismissal of the writ petition of two parties by the Supreme Court on 24th September, 1987.

Application from one party for reduction of price has been received although no specific rate has been offered.

Dharna by N.P.C.C. workers in Delhi

1469. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY:
Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the workers of the National Projects Construction Corporation are sitting in Dharna in front of the office of the N.P.C.C. in Delhi since 8 September, 1987;

(b) if so, what are their demands; and

(c) the steps taken to ameliorate the genuine grievances of the workers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) About two to three hundred workmen have been demonstrating and shouting slogans in front of the Corporate Office of the NPCC at New Delhi since 8th September, 1987.