

**Telegraph Sub-Division for Balasore and Bhadrak Towns in Orissa**

2920. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a separate telegraph sub-division has been sanctioned for Angal in Orissa; if so, when and the date of receipt of proposal in this regard; and

(b) whether the proposals for sanction of two such telegraph sub-divisions for Balasore Town and Bhadrak in Orissa have been submitted to Government; if so, when the proposals were received and the action taken so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) Yes, Sir. Proposal for separate telegraph sub-division at Angal was sanctioned on 5.5.1989. The proposal was received on 27.3.1989.

(b) Proposals for sanction of a Phones Sub Division at Balasore and a Telegraph Engineering Sub-Division at Bhadrak were received in the Telecom. Directorate on 10.3.89 but on examination they were not found justified due to insufficient workload.

**Agro-Climatic Zones**

2921. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of agro-climate zones in the country;

(b) whether the Planning Commission has constituted any expert committee to suggest measures to increase the agriculture production and to improve the breed of cattle and thus to bring revolutionary changes in the country;

(c) if so, whether that committee has prepared any report; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) For the purpose of agricultural planning, the Planning Commission has divided the country into 15 Agro-climatic Zones.

(b) to (d). As part of the work relating to Agro-Climatic zonal planning and the sectoral working groups for the VIII Five Year Plan, ways and means of increasing agricultural production and improving animal breeds are being examined. Final decisions will be incorporated in the Plan.

**Opening of Post Offices**

2922. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) criteria followed in opening of post offices, sub-post offices and one man manned post offices in urban and rural areas; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to open more post offices in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) The norms for opening of Post Offices in urban and rural areas are indicated in the Statement given below. In urban areas, post offices having work up to 10 hours per day are managed by a single postal assistant. In rural areas, depending upon the workload and the cost and income factors, a branch postmaster is given the assistance of the a delivery agent and/or mail carrier or the other duties are performed by the branch postmaster himself/herself on payment of and additional