

- (ii) the inconvenience to the public in States which do not have an office already; and
- (iii) considerations of economy in Government expenditure, particularly non-Plan expenditure.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government of Madhya Pradesh have suggested Bhopal as the location for the Passport Office.

Shortage of Doctors in Meghalaya

6186. SHRI P. A. SANGMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is acute shortage of doctors in Meghalaya; if so, the steps being taken or proposed to be taken;

(b) the number of doctors working at present in Meghalaya; and

(c) the number of Hospitals/Primary Health Centres/Dispensaries with and without doctors in Meghalaya?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAJ NARAIN): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

S.T.D. facility between Bhiwandi and Bombay

6187. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any memorandum, requesting S.T.D. facility between Bhiwandi and Bombay;

(b) if so, when this S.T.D. facility is likely to be made available; and

(c) the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BRIJ LAL VERMA): (a) S.T.D. between Bhiwandi and Bombay is already working since 15-8-76.

(b) and (c). In view of (a) above question does not arise.

Reduction in seats in Goa Medical College

6188. SHRI EDUARDO FAIEIRO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of seats for admission in the Goa Medical College has been reduced during the current academic year and if so, the extent of reduction and reasons therefor;

(b) whether representations have been received against such reduction of seats and if so, when; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAJ NARAIN): (a) On the basis of an inspection of the Goa Medical College, Medical Council of India have recommended that the number of admissions in the college be reduced from 60 to 50.

(b) and (c). Representation received in July, 1977 regarding restoration/increase in number of seats is under consideration of the Medical Council of India.

Opening of Posts and Telegraphs office

6189. SHRI EDUARDO FAIEIRO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the facilities proposed to be provided by Post and Telegraphs Department in the year 1977, 1978 in Goa;