

**THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BRIJ LAL VERMA):**  
No Sir. No such application appears to have been received so far.

**R.S.M. between Shillong and Gauhati**

6264. **SHRI HOPINGSTONE LYNGDOH:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the opening of the Railway Mail Service in between Shillong and Gauhati has caused delay of distribution of parcels at Shillong by one day; and

(b) if so, what Government propose to overcome such delay?

**THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BRIJ LAL VERMA):**  
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Barabazar Post Office, Shillong**

6265. **SHRI HOPINGSTONE LYNGDOH:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the so called Barabazar Post Office at Shillong is not located in the Barabazar area; and

(b) what is the rent per month paid to the landlord for housing the so called Barabazar Post Office at Police Bazar, Shillong?

**THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BRIJ LAL VERMA):**  
(a) The Post Office is located between Police Bazar and Bara Bazar and is about  $\frac{1}{2}$  Km. from the main Bara Bazar.

(b) Rs. 1,177/- p.m.

**Power shortage hits Steel Plants in Tamil Nadu**

6266. **SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the steel plants in Tamil Nadu have been closed down and facing total collapse due to power shortage in the State;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) steps being considered by Government in this regard?

**THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK):** (a) and (b). No, Sir. Due to power shortage, there was shortfall in production by mini steel plants in Tamil Nadu but no unit has faced total collapse and closure.

(c) The Tamil Nadu Government have taken/formulated certain short, medium and long term measures to improve upon the power situation.

These include:

(i) Addition of 935 (MW) capacity during the 5th Plan period;

(ii) For maximising the generation of Ennore Thermal Station, certain modifications have been carried out. More modifications are proposed in 1977-78. Improvements have also been carried out at the Basin Bridge Thermal Station. Import of 3 units of Gas Turbine Generators of 210 MW total capacity as an immediate measures of relief is proposed;

(iii) Proposal for installation of an additional unit at the Tuticorin Thermal Station, to raise its capacity from 420 MW (under construction) to 630 M.W.

(iv) As a long term measure, the Tamil Nadu Government are considering the question of setting up of additional power plants.