

(b) what is the total number of employees working in the extra Departmental Post Offices;

(c) whether Government are sympathetic to raise their pay; and

(d) if so, what will be their pay, and when they are to get it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): (a) Considering the fact that the Branch Postmasters work for only limited hours a day the allowance payable to them is not considered inadequate.

(b) As on 31-3-77 the total number of Extra Departmental agents was 222495.

(c) and (d). The wage structure of the Branch Postmasters is under review.

**Cost of Production of a pair of Rail Wheel**

4882. SHRI SUKHENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the cost of production of one pair of rail wheels with axle and at what price they are sold to the Railways; and

(b) the cost of production of one ton of steel in the various steel plants and at what price it is being exported?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) and (b). The cost of production of different categories of steel varies from plant to plant depending on several factors like product mix, capital cost etc. Similarly, the export prices for different categories of steel are subject to fluctuations depending on International market conditions. Rail wheels are being supplied a pair of rail wheels with axle at a price of Rs. 4308 (exclusive of excise duty and JPC cess).

**अलीगढ़ पोस्टल सोल्स संगठन का कार्यालय**

4883. श्री नबाब सिंह चौहान: क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि अलीगढ़ पोस्टल सोल्स कोऑपरेटिव सोसायटी/संगठन के श्रमिकों के कार्य करने का स्थान न हवादार

है और न ही वहां रोजगारी और पंखों की पर्याप्त व्यवस्था है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं तथा क्या सरकार का विचार इन समस्याओं को तुरन्त हल करने का है तथा श्रम कल्याण सम्बन्धी अन्य सुविधाएं प्रदान करने का है और यदि हां, तो कब तक ?

संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री नरहरि प्रसाद सुखदेव साय) : (क) सोसाइटी के श्रमिकों के लिए जो शेड बनाए गए हैं, उनमें यद्यपि पंखों और बलियों के प्लांट नहीं लगे हैं, फिर भी यह कहना सही नहीं है कि वे हवादार नहीं हैं या उनमें रोजगारी अपर्याप्त है ।

(ख) यह सोसाइटी एक स्वतंत्र सहकारी संस्था है और यह डाक-तार विभाग के नियंत्रण में आने वाली एक इकाई नहीं है । इसलिए, अपने कर्मचारियों के कल्याण के बारे में ध्यान देना सोसाइटी का काम है ।

**Setting up of an Export oriented Aluminium Plant in M.P.**

4884. SHRI SURYA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Russian experts have submitted a report to government for setting up an export oriented aluminium plant in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details therein; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) to (c). A feasibility report was got prepared by a Soviet agency for setting up an export-oriented alumina plant based on Mainpat bauxite deposits. The feasibility report concluded that the exploitation of these deposits would not be economical for export of alumina. It was, therefore, not possible to proceed further in the matter.