

S. No.	Circle	No. of post offices upgraded from 1-4-77 to 31-1-78
12.	Orissa	3+1 upgraded in February, 1978
13.	Rajasthan	18
14.	Tamilnadu	7
15.	U. P.	7
16.	West Bengal	13
		119+1

Names of Branch post Offices upgraded to be upgraded in Orissa State in 1977-78.

Upgraded	To be upgraded
1. Rasgovindpur	1. Gurandia
2. Biswanathpur	2. Barkhama
3. Sumandalo	3. Olaver
4. Kurtumgarh	4. Khuntagaon
	5. Avana
	6. Hulursinga

Settlement of Labour Disputes in Gujarat

1371. SHRI PRASANNBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether some labour disputes in Gujarat have been referred to him for settlement during the last one year; and

(b) how many cases he has been able to settle?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a) and (b). Presumably reference is to labour disputes in respect of which the appropriate Government under the Industrial Disputes Act is the Government of Gujarat. No such disputes have been referred to the Union Labour Minister during the last one year.

Steps to supply Raw Material and Power to Mini Steel Mills

1372. SHRI GANGADHAR APPA BURANDE: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state the steps taken to supply adequate raw materials and power to the mini steel mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): Government do not directly regulate supply of raw materials to the mini steel plants. However, in order to assist the mini steel plants, Government have abolished import duty on melting scrap, and excise duty on certain categories of heavy melting scrap procured from the integrated steel plants. Government have also allowed import of graphite electrodes whenever indigenous supply has not been adequate to meet the requirements of the mini steel units. Import of certain quantity of specified categories of scrap has also been allowed recently so as to supplement indigenous supply.

As regards power, Government efforts has been to ensure supply of power to the mini steel plants on continued and consistent basis, to the extent feasible. The actual power supply however depends upon total availability of power in different States and the relative priority that may be accorded to this industry by the State Electricity Boards at a particular point of time.