

returns received for 1976, the average daily employment in sand stone mines is 77.

(b) to (d). A proposal to set up a Common Welfare Fund for all workers employed in mines other than those covered by specific funds, is under examination.

**Incentive to Workmen of Bokaro Steel Ltd.**

10099. SHRI A. K. ROY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he promised to give incentive to the workmen of Bokaro Steel Limited at par with the Bhilai Steel Plant;

(b) whether the incentive rate in operation at Bokaro is much less than that at Bhilai;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government propose to remove this discrimination.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA):  
(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Region-wise number of E.D. Employees in Posts and Telegraphs**

10100. SHRI VASANT SATHE:  
SHRI PIUS TIRKEY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Extra Departmental employees of P&T Department, Region-wise as in March 1977 vis-a-vis number of such employees on 31st March, 1978;

(b) whether the organisation/union of such employees have submitted a memorandum to the Janata Government;

(c) if so, furnish important detail thereof;

(d) the action taken/proposed to meet the main demands of these employees and absorb them in the Department on permanent jobs on preferential basis; and

(e) the details of action taken, number of workers benefited and demands under consideration of Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SA1): (a) Statement I showing the number of E.D. employees circle-wise as on 31-3-1977 is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2344/78]. The information as on 31-3-978 is yet to be compiled.

(b) The Extra Departmental Agents had submitted a memorandum containing 24 demands in September, 1977.

(c) to (e). Statement II showing the demands and the position relating thereto is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2344/78].

**Abolition of free labour in forest villages**

10101. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the system of free labour is prevalent in forest villages in some States; and

(b) if so, what steps Government are taking to free these forest villagers from this system of free labour in view of the abolition of bonded labour?