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| 5. Regional Passport Calcutta Office        | . The States of West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa Assam, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Tripura Manipur and Sikkim and the Union Territories of Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh . |
| 6. Regional Passport Chandigarh Office,     | . The Union Territory of Chandigarh and the States of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and Haryana.  |
| 7. Regional Passport New Delhi Office       | . The Union Territory of Delhi and the State of Jammu and Kashmir.   |
| 8. Regional Passport Ernakulam Office,      | . The State of Kerala and the Union Territory of Lakshadweep.  |
| 9. Regional Passport Hyderabad Office,      | . The State of Andhra Pradesh.   |
| 10. Regional Passport Jaipur Office         | . The State of Rajasthan (opened on 22-9-1978).  |
| 11. Sub-Regional Kozhikode Passport Office, | . The Districts of Cannanore, Kozhikode, Malapuram and Palghat in the State of Kerala (opened on 17-6-1978).   |
| 12. Regional Passport Lucknow Office        | . The State of Uttar Pradesh.  |
| 13. Regional Passport Madras Office,        | The State of Tamil Nadu and the Union Territory of Pondicherry.  |

#### Bonus to P & T Employees

646. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR N. PATIL: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal for payment of bonus to the employees of P. & T. is pending consideration of Government since long;

(b) if so, at what level of consideration it stands and the decision taken in this regard; and

(c) how soon the decision is expected?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a) to (c). Proposals for amending the Payment of Bonus Act in several aspects, including extension of the Act to new areas, have been received by Government. It is the intention of Government to study these proposals closely and to have consultations with the interests concerned before introducing changes in the Act.

#### Loss on Account of Floods

647. SHRI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE ALLURI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loss suffered by the Ministry during the month of August-September, 1978 due to disruption of lines of communications on account of floods; and

(b) what steps have been taken to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): (a) and (b). Disruption to lines of communication was caused on account of floods in the months of August-September, 1978 in West Bengal, Orissa, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Haryana, Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir.

Immediately after the floods subsided, the effort was concentrated on the restoration of the disrupted lines of communication in a phased manner. First essential services like Govt. Secretariat, Police, Hospitals, Army