

(b) 3450 as on 31st March 1952.

(c) In the case of newly-opened Branch Post offices the limit is (i) Rs. 750 per annum provided the office serves a well demarcated village unit having a population of 2,000 or over, or a compact group of villages with similar population, no two villages within the group being separated by a distance exceeding 4 miles. (ii) Rs. 500 per annum when the above conditions are not satisfied.

The total loss suffered by the Department in Bombay circle on rural Post offices:—

1950-51	Rs. 1,12,833-2-10
1951-52	Rs. 1,48,490-0-4

EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES

524. Prof. D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state whether Government charge any fee for registration with the employment exchanges from the would-be employees?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): No.

FORESTS

525. Shri Ganpati Ram: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of reserved forests, protected and unclassified forests in India;

(b) the percentages of increase or decrease after 1941; and

(c) the valuable products of reserved forests and their approximate annual demand for home consumption and the total quantity annually exported to foreign markets?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) to (c). Three statements giving the available information are placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 46.]