

of duty prescribed for them. The Civil Aviation staff do not agree to this arrangement. It is, however, open to the staff to arrange for proper duty rosters whereby they could finish the prescribed duty hours in six days and avail themselves of a day off. No discrimination is being shown to the Civil Aviation staff.

CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT

676. Shri B. Y. Reddy : Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for delay in the electrification of Class IV quarters of Civil Aviation Department ;

(b) whether Government propose to expedite the same ; and

(c) if so, which are the places?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur) :

(a) to (c). It was only last year that it was generally decided by Government that electricity could be provided in the quarters of Class IV employees stationed outside Delhi. The provision of this amenity is subject to the availability of power in the locality, and no expenditure is to be incurred on the strengthening of the power supply position or on the provision of an electric sub-station, etc. Taking these factors into account, it is proposed to provide electricity at 27 aerodromes, mentioned in statement which I lay on the Table of the Lok Sabha, out of 81 aerodromes at present under the control of the Civil Aviation Department. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 42.] Estimates have also been framed in this regard for five aerodromes. Two of these estimates have already been sanctioned. Similar action in respect of other aerodromes is being expedited.

VILLAGE POSTMEN

677. Dr. Rama Rao : Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state :

(a) whether the village postmen are required to stay in the villages outside their Headquarters for a week or more during the course of their work (duty) ;

(b) if so, whether they are paid any outstation allowance for the period of their absence from their Headquarters ; and

(c) if not, whether there is any proposal to sanction such an allowance?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur) :

(a) Yes, the period of staying out varies from one day to a week according to the length of the particular village postman's delivery beats.

(b) No.

(c) No.

EXTRA DEPARTMENTAL AGENTS

678. Shri Punnoose : Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Extra Departmental Agents in the P. & T. Department are governed by the Central Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, and

(b) if not, whether the Extra Departmental Agents are permitted to stand for election to the Panchayats, local bodies and legislatures?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur) :

(a) and (b). The Central Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, as they stand at present, cannot be made wholly applicable to the Extra Departmental Agents. The extent to which these rules can be made applicable to the Extra Departmental Agents is under examination in consultation with the Ministries of Home Affairs and Law.

TELEPHONE LINES

**679. { Sardar Iqbal Singh :
Sardar Akarpuri :**

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state :

(a) the number of telephone lines installed in the country during the year 1955 ; and

(b) the number of automatic telephones installed in the State of Punjab?