

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION (SHRI KARTIK ORAON):

(a) One complaint dated 21-3-80 regarding non-availability of Complaints and Suggestions book at the Ghaziabad City Night Post Office was received from the Hon'ble Member of Parliament himself and this was replied to on 18-4-1980.

(b) The Complaints and Suggestions book, though available at the Ghaziabad City Post Office, was not available at the counters during the extended working hours as it was kept with the Sub Postmaster who remained off duty during that period. The Sub Postmaster was instructed suitably and the book was made available during the entire working hours of the Post Office including the extended working hours.

(c) Only one complaint dated 30-3-80 from a member of public was received by the Superintendent of Post Offices, i.e. after the Minister of Communications received the complaint and intervened.

(d) The public complaint was acknowledged by the Superintendent of Post Offices.

(e) Instructions already exist that Complaints and Suggestions book should be available and a signboard to that effect should be displayed in all Post Offices. This is checked by the visiting and inspecting officers, also. Any complaint in this regard is promptly attended to.

#### Telephone Connections for Social Workers in M.P.

4126. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone connections given in categories of social worker etc., in Madhya Pradesh during last 3 years; and

(b) whether in view of the demand for telephone connections in Madhya Pradesh, it is proposed to restrict the number of telephones being allotted to the above categories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAON):

(a) Three telephones have been given under 'Social Worker' category in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years.

(b) No, Sir. The rules regarding the eligibility under 'Publicmen' category have, however, been made more stringent. According to the latest orders only eminent publicmen who are well known in public life and are of outstanding reputation will be eligible to register under this category.

#### Productivity of Live-stock

4127. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the steps taken or proposed to be taken to raise the productivity of live-stock in the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO): Livestock is a State subject and action from State to State may differ but basically the approach to raise productivity of livestock is as follows:—

#### (i) Cattle Development.

Cross-breeding has been taken up on a large scale to increase the productivity of indigenous cattle. In order to increase the efficiency, frozen semen technology has been introduced and is adopted on a wider scale. Cross-bred calf (female) rearing scheme has been introduced in 99 districts of the country for supplementing the income of the small and marginal farmers and landless agricultural labourers. Intensive Cattle Development Projects and Key Village Blocks are being strengthened and new projects are being established. The Government of India have set up 7 Central Cattle/Buffalo Breeding Farms in the country to produce and supply Pedigree and proven bulls for improving the productivity of bovine

population. Programmes for progeny testing of breeding bulls has been taken up. Gaushalas also play a part in the development of cattle.

(ii) *Poultry Development.*

Government of India has set up four Central Poultry Breeding Farms for development, production and supply of superior quality chicks to increase the egg and poultry production. The Department of Agriculture has also set up a Central Duck Breeding Farm for taking up multiplication of superior quality ducks in order to upgrade the indigenous ducks through cross-breeding. Various State Governments and Union Territories have set up Poultry Breeding Farms for supply of quality chicks to poultry farmers. Many such farms have also been set up under private sector. The productivity of the birds of such farms are many times more than the indigenous birds. A Central Training Institute for Poultry Production and Management has been set up to impart training to extension workers. A scheme of special poultry production programme has been taken up in 68 districts of the country to supplement the income of small and marginal farmers and landless agricultural labourers. According to this scheme 3000 rural farmer families per district are expected to be benefited by rearing a poultry unit of about 50 layers.

(iii) *Sheep Development*

Exotic breeds of sheep both wool and mutton types have been introduced in the country to produce crossbred rams. One large Sheep Breeding Farm at Hissar under the Central Sector and seven similar farms in the States have been established to produce crossbred rams. The crossbred rams are provided to the private flock owners to upgrade their stock. Three Wool Boards one each in Rajasthan, Karnataka and Gujarat have been established to promote collection, grading and marketing of wool.

(iv) *Piggery Development.*

Programmes have been taken up for improving the production poten-

tial of indigenous pigs by crossing them with improved varieties of exotic pigs. For this purpose State Governments have imported good quality exotic breeds of pigs and have established breeding farms to meet the requirement of good quality boars.

(v) *Fodder Development*

In order to achieve quick transfer of fodder production technology, the Government of India has established seven Regional Stations for forage production and development in the different agro-ecological zones of the country. These stations also produce seeds of high yielding varieties of fodder crops and assist the State agencies in their further multiplication and distribution. New and effective agro-technology has been introduced in the temperate zone for growing berseem. In order to ensure supply of foundation seeds of fodder crops, one large fodder seed production farm has been established in Karnataka and another is proposed to be established in Assam under Central sector. Besides this, the National Seeds Corporation and the State Government Farms also produce seeds of high yielding variety to meet the requirement of farmers.

(vi) *Animal Health*

Health cover of livestock is one of the inputs which indirectly contribute to productivity by preventing losses from diseases. Two Centrally Sponsored Schemes are being executed in all States and Union Territories. The Rinderpest Eradication Scheme envisages vaccination of susceptible population and surveillance of disease. Under the Food and Mouth disease control programme subsidised polyvalent vaccine is provided to weaker sections of the society. States biological Production Centres are being strengthened to meet the increasing demands of vaccine, and disease diagnostic laboratories have been established in almost all States beside day to day treatment being provided to livestock through Veterinary Hospitals.