

(ख) क्या विभाग ने इस प्रणाली को शुरू करने के लिये किसी कार्यक्रम की रूपरेखा तैयार की है ?

संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री कार्तिक उरांव): (क) और (ख). उज्जैन एवं इन्दौर के बीच एक तंग पट्टी सूक्ष्म तरंग प्रणाली पहले ही लगाई जा चुकी है ।

Postal Divisions

5766. SHRI M. RAMANNA RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Postal Divisions now existing throughout India;

(b) the criterion adopted by Government to constitute postal divisions; and

(c) even though Kasragod Postal Sub-Division fulfils all the required norms to be elevated as Postal Sub-Division the reasons why Government failed to take steps to upgrade it into Postal Division?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAON): (a) The total number of Postal Divisions in India at present is 395.

(b) New Postal Divisions are created by bifurcation of the existing Postal Divisions on the basis of a prescribed standard. According to this standard, a Postal Division qualifies for bifurcation when its aggregate work-load exceeds 2.6 units. At the same time there is a stipulation that the work-load of the proposed new Postal Division as well as that of the residual Postal Division after bifurcation should not be less than 0.9 units.

(c) The proposal for the creation of a new Postal Division at Kasragod by bifurcation of existing Cannanore Postal Division is under examination.

Import of Disease free Coconut Seeds

5767. SHRI GEORGE JOSEPH MUNDACKALI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is shortage for planting materials like coconut seedling;

(b) whether enough quantity of cross-breed is not being produced; and

(c) why the Government is not importing disease free high breed coconut seeds from foreign countries as the major coconut cultivation areas are affected by root-wilt disease and the average nuts per tree is very low in our country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) A number of programmes have been put on ground for production of hybrid coconut seedlings under the following Centrally Sponsored Schemes:

(i) Scheme for production and distribution of Tall × Dwarf hybrid seedlings. It is under implementation from the Fifth Plan for production and distribution of 1.25 lakh hybrid seedlings annually in the States of Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Orissa.

(ii) Scheme for establishment of hybrid seed garden of Dwarf × Tall (D × T): The seed garden in the States of Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Orissa is being established from the Fifth Plan period to cover 540 hectares. It is estimated that these gardens will produce 34 lakhs of D X T hybrid seedlings at full production stage.

(iii) Scheme for establishment of Tall × Tall (T × T) Elite seed farm in Karnataka: During Fifth Plan, the farm was established on 40 hectares and it is estimated to produce