

(a) whether Government are aware that about 20 million children in India do not have a father and the principal bread-earner of the family;

(b) if so, whether about 20 per cent children in India face a risk of losing one parent before the age of 10;

(c) whether these findings are contained in a publication of the International Institute for Population Studies brought out during 1979 being the International Year of the Child;

(d) if so, whether any scheme is likely to be considered for those children who lose parents and have no bread-earner; and

(e) what proposals are likely to be made during the Sixth Five Year Plan for this purpose so that children affected are looked after by the Social Welfare Organisations?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):

(a) to (c). No official data about orphan children in the country is available. However, according to the estimates of an individual Researcher, whose article was published by the International Institute for Population Studies, Bombay, some 20 million children did not have a father in 1961-71 and that about 20 per cent children in India faced the risk of losing one parent before the age of 10, during the same period.

(d) and (e). Since 1974-75, the Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme through voluntary social welfare organisations for orphans and other destitute children. The object of the scheme is to rehabilitate these children as normal citizens by providing them food, shelter, clothing, medical attention and developmental services of education, pre-vocational and vocational training, vocational guidance, recreation, cultural development and citizenship education. The scheme also has an alternate provision for Foster Care of

such children by placing them with foster parents who are paid an allowance for the maintenance of the child. The scheme will continue to operate during the Sixth Five Year Plan period also.

Yoga, Judo and Folk Dances as Part of Physical Education Programme

2420. SHRI P. M. SAYEED:

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES:

SHRI M. V. CHANDRA-SHEKHARA MURTHY:

SHRI PUIS TIRKEY:

Will he Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Council of Educational Research and Training has suggested that schools throughout the country should teach activities like Yoga, Judo and Folk dances as part of the physical education programme;

(b) if so, what are the other suggestions made in the proposed plan;

(c) whether Government have forwarded this proposal to the State Governments also;

(d) if so, what are their reactions; and

(e) when the scheme is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):

(a) As a sequel to the recommendations made in the document "The Curriculum for the Ten-Year School A Framework" prepared by the NCERT and the recommendations of Shri Ishwarbhai J. Patel Review Committee on Ten Year School Curriculum, NCERT has prepared "A Draft Curriculum in Physical Education for classes I to X" which includes activities like yoga, judo and folk dances, as part of the physical education programme.

(b) The draft syllabus is a comprehensive and graded syllabus which spells out the core programme to be implemented from Classes I—X and the areas of optional activities which can be selected by students. It aims at the development of good health and well being, physical fitness neuro-muscular coordination, skills in sports and games and, finally, an integrated and balanced personality. Indigenous and traditional physical activities have also been given their due place in the curriculum

(c) to (e). The draft curriculum has been sent by the NCERT to the State Governments for obtaining their comments. The comments are awaited.

Opening of Post Offices in Rural Areas in North-Eastern Region

2421. SHRI P. M. SAYEED:

SHRI M. V. CHANDRA-SHEKHARA MURTHY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Post and Telegraph Department has prepared a plan to open 200 post offices in the rural areas in north-eastern region during 1980-81;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that a total of 300 village will be provided with postal counter facilities through mobile post offices and some letter boxes will be installed in various places in these areas;

(c) what are the States where these post offices will be set up and how many people will be covered under one single post office;

(d) whether any other scheme like this is to be introduced throughout the country during Sixth Five Year Plan; and

(e) if so, in how many States?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI C. M. STEPHEN):

(a) to (c). Under the Annual Plan 1980-81 earlier approved by the Planning Commission, it has been proposed to open about 200 rural post offices in the North Eastern Postal Circle besides providing postal counter facilities to about 300 villages and installing additional rural letter boxes. These proposals are likely to be modified in the light of the new Five Year Plan for the period 1980—85 which is under preparation. In view of this, the State-wise break-up of new post office has not been furnished now.

In the normal rural areas, a post office is sanctioned for a village with a minimum population of 2000. In hilly, tribal and backward areas the minimum stipulated population of a single village or a group of villages within a radius of 1-1½ Km. is 1,000.

(d) and (e). Schemes for postal development in rural areas are drawn up on an All-India basis and appropriate targets under the schemes are fixed for the 16 postal circles covering all the States/Union territories in the country.

पटना में बकाया टेलीफोन बिल

2422. श्री रामवतार शास्त्री क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) या यह सच है कि पटना में टेलीफोन बिलों के कारण बहुत बड़ी राशि बकाया है ;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो किन-किन प्रयोक्ताओं की ओर बहुत बड़ी राशि बकाया है और यह राशि प्रत्येक मामले में कितनी कितनी है ;

(ग) बकाया राशि की वसूली करने के लिए क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ; और

(घ) क्या जिन व्यक्तियों की ओर राशि बकाया है उनके टेलीफोन कनेक्शन काट दिये गये हैं और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

संचार मंत्री (श्री सी० एम० स्टीफन): (क) पटना में टेलीफोन बिलों के सम्बन्ध में बकाया रकम अधिक नहीं है। किसी भी तरह तीन महीने पुरानी बकाया रकमों की पटना में वर्ष 1979-80 के लिए