

(b) Yes, except that quarters are provided for the Sub-Postmaster on the Post Office premises.

(c) Yes.

(d) The proposal for the construction of a few sets of quarters is under consideration.

New Post Offices in Orissa

502. Shri K. C. Jena: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) how many new post offices were to be opened and the status of how many of the old ones were to be raised in the First Five Year Plan in the State of Orissa and how far the target fixed was implemented, district-wise;

(b) how many cases of opening of new branch post offices and raising the status of the old ones have been transferred from the First Plan period to that of the Second Plan in each district of that State and the reasons therefor;

(c) how many cases of opening of new branch post offices have been finalised to be opened in the Balasore district in the current year; and

(d) the location of such offices in the district?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) 740 Post Offices were planned to be opened during the First Plan period district-wise as under:—Cuttack-43, Dhenkanal-42, Puri-46, Balasore-54, Mayurbhanj-25, Keonjhar-50, Ganjam-47, Koraput-32, Sambalpur-101, Bolangir-150, Sundergarh-75, Baudh-17, and Kalahandi-58, but actually 935 Post Offices were opened thus exceeding the target by 195. These Post Offices were opened district-wise as under:—

Cuttack-87, Dhenkanal-60, Puri-47, Balasore-74, Mayurbhanj-52, Keonjhar-58, Ganjam-75, Koraput-52, Sambalpur-108, Bolangir-158, Sundergarh-75, Baudh-27, and Kalahandi-62. There was no programme fixed to raise the status of old Post

Offices. The status of 30 Post Offices was however raised during the First Plan period.

(b) The question does not arise as the target fixed for the First Plan period was not only fully implemented but was substantially exceeded.

(c) Two.

(d) Sindhal and Sukendhia.

Vijapur-Ransipur Railway Line

503. Shri P. R. Patel: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether lands were acquired by the then Baroda State to construct a railway line between Vijapur and Ransipur (Mehsana District);

(b) whether any compensation has been paid for these lands; and

(c) whether earth-work has been done on this projected railway line and if so, the cost of the earth-work?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah nawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) Yes. Expenditure booked upto the end of March, 1950 is Rs. 50,864.

Vijapur-Ransipur Railway Line

504. Shri P. R. Patel: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Vijapur-Ransipur railway has been designed to connect Himatnagar of Sabarkantha; and

(b) whether Government have surveyed Vijapur-Ransipur-Himatnagar railway?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah nawaz Khan): (a) No.

(b) No.