

**Public Call Offices in South Arcot District**

1553. Shri Elayaperumal: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) how many Public Call Offices were opened in the years 1954, 1955 and 1956 in South Arcot District, Madras State;

(b) Whether any application was sent to Government by the people of Kathumannarkoil, South Arcot District, to open a Public Call Office at Kathumannarkoil; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a)—

1954.

1. Arakandanallur.
2. Portonovo.
3. Valavanur.

1955.

1. Kallakurichi.
2. Ulundurpet.

1956.

Nil.

(b) Yes.

(c) A Public Call Office has since been sanctioned and it is expected to be opened during this year provided the necessary materials become available in time.

**Inspectors of Post Offices**

1554. Shri Elayaperumal: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) how many Scheduled Caste candidates appeared in the examination for the post of Inspectors of Post Offices during the years 1953, 1956 and 1957 (so far) from Madras circle; and

(b) how many were selected for the post of Inspectors of Post Offices during the same period?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications

(Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). No examination was held in the year 1956. Information with regard to the examinations held in 1955 and 1957 is given below:

(i) In 1955, 71 Scheduled Castes candidates sat for the Inspectors examination in Madras Circle and out of them 2 were selected.

(ii) In 1957 examination 63 Scheduled Castes candidates sat for the examination and 1 was selected.

Note: Even by applying the minimum qualifying standard consistent with requirements of efficiency to the case of Scheduled Castes candidates, more candidates could not be selected.

**Chingelpet-Chinnasalem Line**

1555. Shri Elayaperumal: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the traffic survey of a new line connecting Chingelpet to Chinnasalem via Kellakurichi has been completed; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Railways (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) No, Sir.

(b) As this project is not included in the 842 miles of new construction approved by the Planning Commission for construction in the Second Five Year Plan a low priority has been allotted to it in order to conserve the manpower resources available with the railway.

**Scheduled Caste Candidates**

1556. Shri Elayaperumal: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) how many Scheduled Caste candidates were selected for the post of Clerks, Postmen, Runners and Messengers from Cuddalore and Villuppuram Divisions in the years 1956 and 1957 (so far); and