

(b) if so, the date on which a decision to this effect was taken; and

(c) whether it would be ensured that this practice continues in future so as to spread the telecommunication facilities in the rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAON): (a) All Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices where P.C.Os. stood installed were being upgraded into Extra Departmental Sub Offices upto March, 1981 when a decision was taken by the P&T Board that the policy of automatic upgradation of E.D. Branch Post Offices into E.D. Sub Offices on the provision of P.C.O. facility be reviewed by a Study Group of Ser. Officers and pending receipt of the Group's report, further upgradation of EDBOs into the EDSOs on the opening of PCOs be stopped.

(b) Orders regarding upgradation of E.D. Branch Post Offices into E.D. Sub Office on the installation of P.C.Os (which now stand held in abeyance) were issued on 17-7-1978.

(c) The question of reintroducing practice of automatic upgradation of EDBOs into EDSOs on the opening of PCOs will be considered in the light of the report of the Study Group which is awaited.

#### Opening of Branch Post Offices in Orissa

2659. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAYAK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to provide adequate postal facilities to the rural areas of different States during the Sixth Plan period;

(b) if so, the total number of branch post offices opened so far in Orissa;

(c) the total number of branch post

offices proposed to be opened in Orissa by the end of the current Plan period; and

(d) the details about the total number of post offices proposed to be set up district-wise in that State?

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

(b) During the year 1980-81, 141 branch post offices were opened. During 1981-82, 40 branch post offices have been opened so far and 20 more are expected to be opened.

(c) and (d). No advance state-wise target is fixed for opening of branch post offices in rural areas for whole of the Sixth Plan. Yearly target is fixed before the commencement of each financial year. Proposals are examined every year and offices are opened wherever justified, subject to the availability of targets. In the case of departmental post offices, these are opened, wherever justified as per departmental standards.

रायपुर दूरदर्शन केन्द्र प्रसारण की रेंज को बढ़ाया जाना

2660. श्री केयूर भूषण : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या रायपुर के दूरदर्शन प्रसारण केन्द्र की रेंज बढ़ाने का कोई प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या रायपुर दूरदर्शन केन्द्र की रेंज को इतना बढ़ाने के बारे में विचार किया गया है, ताकि विलासपुर डिवीजन और राज नन्दगांव जिला भी इस रेंज के अन्तर्गत आ जाए ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्री बसंत साठे) : (क) जो, नहीं ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।