

Sl. No.	Name of the District.	Number of Post Offices opened		
		1957	1958	1959
(upto 30-11-59)				
1.	Cachar	13	9	4
2.	Kamrup	11	23	11
3.	Goalpara	6	14	6
4.	Garo Hills	1	2	2
5.	K & J Hills	10	7	5
6.	Mizo	5	3	21
7.	Nowgong	15	6	5
8.	Darrang	5	4	9
9.	Sibsagar	11	8	17
10.	Lakhimpur	11	18	13
11.	M & N C Hills	1	2	3
TOTAL		89	96	96

Construction of Cachar Road

1869. **Shri L. Achaw Singh:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that labour is not available to work for the construction of new Cachar Road in Manipur;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to remove the cause of shortage of labour?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (c). There has been some difficulty in engaging adequate labour for the construction of new Cachar Road during the last few months on account of hostile activities of Nagas. Police camps have been established in certain places for security and the situation is improving.

Navigation in the Loktak Lake

1870. **Shri L. Achaw Singh:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether water-hyacinth in the Loktak Lake in Manipur has grown so much that it has handicapped navi-

gation of the country boats between the Thanga Islands and villages beyond the lake as well as fishing; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken or are proposed to be taken for clearing the water-hyacinth?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) The reply is in the affirmative. The northern side of the Thanga islands has been blocked up with water hyacinth and other aquatic vegetations. The southern side of the islands forming Government fisheries are partially free from such vegetations and the normal movement of the people and fishing operations are concentrated to this side. The northern side is available for free fishing.

(b) The Manipur Administration got the affected portion of the lake inspected and were advised that the only immediate solution was the manual removal of the water-hyacinth by the people themselves. A large number of the people agreed to start work immediately and an expenditure of Rs. 5,000 has been sanctioned by the Manipur Administration for the purpose.