

which have been decided to be weeded out by the Drug Control Authorities, manufacturing units were allowed time till 30th September, 1982 for stopping the production and 31st March, 1983 for stoppage of sales. The production of such drugs has been stopped from 1-10-82, by M/s. Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd., Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd. Smith Stanistreet Pharmaceuticals Ltd. The position regarding M/s. Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Limited is however, being confirmed.

Post Offices Downgraded/Closed in Himachal Pradesh

2581. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any post offices have been (i) downgraded, (ii) closed on account of financial losses incurred by them, during the past three years in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the names thereof, separately; and

(c) whether any steps are being undertaken to restore these so as to provide this essential facility in the State with details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) No post office is downgraded/closed on account of financial loss as such.

However in the case of departmental sub offices opened on the basis of non-returnable contribution (NRC), if the contribution is not forthcoming from the concerned parties, then the question of its downgradation to ED post office is considered provided the post office satisfies the norms prescribed for EDSO/EDBO as the case may be. Moreover, under the existing policy in

rural areas an experimental post office, which cannot be made permanent after the maximum trial period of 10 years on account of the loss being in excess of the permissible limit, is to be closed.

In accordance with this policy (i) 8 post offices have been downgraded either from departmental sub office to ED sub office or from E.D. sub office to E.D. branch office. (ii) 1 ED branch post office has been closed in Himachal Pradesh during the past three years.

(b) Information is furnished below: Downgrading from Departmental Sub Post Office to E.D. Sub Post Office.

(i) Qasba Kotla in Kangra Distt.

(ii) Jangal Beri in Hamirpur Distt.

(iii) Chanaur in Dehra Distt.

(iv) Jahu in Hamirpur Distt.

(v) Bahina in Una Distt.

(vi) Tikkar in Simla Distt.

Downgrading from E.D. Sub Post Office to E.D. Branch Post Office

(vii) Jagitnagar in Solan Distt.

(viii) Sanaura in Solan Distt.

Closed

(i) Bagli E.D. Branch Post Office in Dehra Distt.

(c) Cases are being pursued with the State Government for payment of non-returnable contribution in respect of all the above offices.

Opening of Post Offices in Rural Areas

2582. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) targets for opening of new post offices in the rural areas during the Sixth Five Year Plan State-wise;