

(b) if so, the outcome thereof and the punishment awarded to the persons held responsible ; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay and when the police investigation is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGANA) : (a) No.

(b) In view of (a) above, it needs no reply.

(c) The police has covered much of the track towards completion of their investigation and a close liaison is being kept to get it finalised.

Manufacture of OPEL Car by Birlas

1078. **SHRI R. S. PANDEY :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Birlas have made a proposal to Government to allow them to manufacture OPEL cars instead of the Ambassador Cars being manufactured by the Hindustan Motors at present ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal is under examination.

Pending Applications for Rural Post Offices in Bihar

1079. **KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications pending with Government for opening village-wise Post Offices in Bihar and for how long ; and

(b) the reasons for not taking final action therein ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGANA) : (a)

952 applications are pending for the last 6 months to 3 years.

(b) The examination of such proposals takes time, particularly when the estimated prospective traffic requires to be verified. However, the P.M.G. has been instructed to finalise these cases during the year 1972-73.

Planning Minister's Speech in Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry at Calcutta

1080. **SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA :** Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether in his speech in Calcutta, while addressing the meeting of the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry, he had spoken about the corrective measures to be taken by Government to stimulate the forward drive of industry ; and

(b) if so, whether Government would further elaborate this statement ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA) : (a) and (b). The Minister had, in his speech at the meeting of the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Calcutta, drawn attention to some of the reasons for the slow growth of industry and the steps that have been taken by the Government to stimulate industrial production. These measures include a detailed analysis of the situation on an industry-by-industry basis to find out the specific problems affecting each industry, removal of bottlenecks arising from shortage of power, transport and raw materials, creation of a special Raw Materials Bank for Steel, stimulation of demand through selective public investment, better utilisation of existing capacity and avoidance of procedural delays as far as possible. The Mid-term Appraisal of the Fourth Plan, which has already been laid on the Table of the House, has dealt with these aspects in some detail.

सारे देश के औद्योगिक विकास के लिए समान नीति

1081. **श्री मूलचन्द डागा :** क्या औद्योगिक विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या सरकार ने समस्त देश के औद्योगिक विकास के