

Arunachal, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Mizoram, Manipur, Tripura and Sikkim

8. Comprises of Bihar

The second digit indicates a subregion as well as a routing process. The third digit pinpoints a definite area in each region and indicates the post offices contained therein.

The next three digits in each six-digit number pinpoint specific post office. All Post Offices to be opened in future as delivery offices will be given a number at the time of its opening. All the present Zonal delivery numbers are made an integral part of the code without any change in them.

Since Geographical knowledge for each sorter will not be necessary under the Code, the job at that level will become easier.

As an example the Delhi town delivery district is being given a number 110. New Delhi No. 11 will, therefore, be 110011, or Madras No. 7 will be Madras 600007.

Directories showing the PIN Code number of all delivery Post Offices will be made available for sale to the public, like Post Office Guides.

Opening of P. C. Os on Loss Basis in Backward Areas

484. SHRI RAM KANWAR ;
SHRI P. NARASIMHA REDDY :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Posts and Telegraphs Department has liberalised a policy for opening Public Call Offices on a loss basis in Hilly and Backward areas ; and

(b) the places where such Offices are being opened and the likely loss to be incurred by the Public Exchequer ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Specific proposals have been called for from the Circles. The amount of loss that may be incurred on such schemes will be known after the specific proposals are examined and sanctioned.

Alleged Victimization of Staff of Delhi Telephones over defective Accounting System

485. SHRI RAM KANWAR : Will the

Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Administrative Staff Union of the Delhi Telephones has complained to Government that members of Staff are being victimised by certain Officers on public complaints over the defective accounting system ;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard ;

(c) the broad outlines of various complaints received from the subscribers about the defective billing and action, if any, usually taken when such complaints are received ; and

(d) the nature of complaints which are still to be disposed by the Delhi Telephone Office ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir but the charge of victimisation contained therein is not correct.

(c) The subscribers complaints generally fall under the following broad categories :

1. Alleged excessive metering of local calls.
2. Bills for accessories allegedly not provided.
3. Bills for trunk calls allegedly not made by the subscriber.
4. Incorrect valuation of trunk calls arising from alleged incorrect timing or classification of the calls.
5. Wrongful disconnection of telephone despite payment.

The complaints are investigated and if found justified, relief is afforded.

(d) Receipt and disposal of complaints is a continuous process. The nature of complaints is mentioned in (c) above.

Joint sector as a part of Industrial Policy

487. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have drawn up a new proposal for the creation of a joint sector as a part of the new industrial policy ; and

(b) if so, in what respect and to what extent it deviates from the Industrial Policy Resolutions of 1948 and 1956 ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) :

(a) The concept of the 'Joint Sector' crystallised in the recommendations of the Industrial Licensing Policy Enquiry Committee. Government have accepted this concept in principle while announcing its revised licensing policy in February, 1970. It envisages a greater degree of participation in management, particularly at the policy level, by the public financial institutions in those projects which have received substantial assistance from these institutions. It has been decided that the public financial institutions should have the option in such cases to convert loans and debentures issued in future, either wholly or partly, into equity within a specified period of time. Also, where in respect of loans/debentures given in the past, there is a default, the financial institutions concerned would have the discretion to negotiate conversion. Clear norms and guidelines in this regard have already been issued and announced through a Press Note in May, 1971.

(b) As a perusal of paragraphs 8 and 10 of the Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956 will show, this concept of the 'Joint Sector' is consistent with that Resolution.

Pilferage of Postal Stamps from Mailed Covers

488. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of news published in the daily *Indian Nation* of Patna dated the 25th June, 1972 regarding the large scale pilferage of postal stamps affixed on mailed covers ; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof and Government's reaction thereto ?

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

(b) On 19-6-72 it was reported to Postmaster-General that the staff reporter of *Indian Nation* had found on the roadside in Chandmari Mohalla, Patna, some letters with postage stamps apparently removed. The matter was immediately reported by

Postmaster-General to Bihar C.I.D. authorities who are investigating it.

Shifting of Ashoka Paper Mills Ltd., Darbhanga to Assam

489. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the people of Darbhanga in Bihar are opposing the shifting of already installed paper plant (Ashoka Paper Mills Ltd.) from Rameshwar Nagar (Darbhanga) to Assam ;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto ; and

(c) whether it is proposed to amend the present proposal by allowing the formerly installed paper plant to remain at Rameshwar Nagar and to shift only the Pulp plants to Assam ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Direct Telecommunication link with Russia

490. SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO : SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to have direct telecommunication link with Russia and

(b) if so, the broad features of the proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA) : (a) and (b) High frequency telecommunication links between India and U.S.S.R. are already in existence. However, a proposal for setting up a microwave troposcatter link between India and U.S.S.R. is also under consideration.

T. V. Centre at Madras

491. SHRI ARVIND NETAM : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND