

(b) According to the instructions issued by the Ministry of Finance which are applicable to all Central Government employees including P&T employees, Compensatory Hill Allowance is admissible at Hill Stations situated at a height of 1,000 meters or more above sea level. The height of Rampur Bushahar is less than 1,000 meters. The allowance is, therefore, not admissible.

**Issue of Commemoration Stamps during 1972-73**

3277. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Commemoration Stamps are proposed to be issued during the year 1972-73; and

(b) if so, the main proposals thereof?

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

(b) The programme for the years 1972 and 1973 as drawn out till date is placed on the table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT--3488/72.*]

**25th year of India's Independence celebrations by P&T Department**

3278. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the P&T Department has drawn up any special plan to mark the 25th year of Indian Independence; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the plan?

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

(b) The salient features of the programme of celebrations in the P&T are :—

(i) Issue of three special postage stamps on the occasion, one of them the 15th August, 1972.

(ii) Issue of a newly designed aerogramme on Independence day.

(iii) Introduction of PIN-Code—a scheme for streamlining and bringing efficiency in the sorting and despatch of postal articles from the 15th August, 1972.

(iv) Providing a Community Hall in R.K. Puram, New Delhi for P&T employees.

(v) Introduction of new Pass Book Covers amongst Post Office Savings Bank depositors.

(vi) Provisions of newly designed letter boxes at a few places for better presentability and convenience.

(vii) Commissioning of the Poona-Secunderabad microwave link during the anniversary year.

(viii) Opening of 300 telephone exchanges to provide 1,20,000 additional lines.

(ix) Participation in the Asia Fair Exhibition during the year.

(x) Non-closure of experimental Post Offices during the Independence anniversary year.

**Problem of Monsoon conditions in India on Communication via Satellites**

3279. SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the monsoon conditions in India pose special problems in communication via satellites; and

(b) if so, whether India has been able to solve these problems so far as our satellite programme is concerned?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS, MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF SPACE (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) and (b). The particular configurations which will be employed in conducting the country's satellite programme will ensure that the monsoon conditions will not pose special problems so far as the programme is concerned.

#### **Development of Fluidized-Bed Type Reactor**

3280. SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether, in view of many desirable characteristics of the fluidized-bed reactor, the Government have under consideration the development of this type of reactor; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS, MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF SPACE (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) and (b). The fluidized-bed type reactor is an advanced high temperature helium gas cooled reactor envisaging the use of thorium. This reactor concept involves the development of complex fuel fabrication and reprocessing techniques, and also of high temperature gas turbine technology. These areas require considerable development effort in terms of both money and manpower, but are applicable mainly to this reactor concept only. Government is therefore not considering the development of the fluidized-bed type reactor at present. However, the molten salt reactor, which involves a reactor concept

making more efficient use of thorium than the fluidized-bed reactor, is being studied as an adjunct of the fast breeder reactor programme.

#### **Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd.**

3281. SHRI C. CHITTABABU :  
SHRI K. MALLANNA :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state the progress of work done by the Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited since its registration on 29th May, 1970?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) : The Hindustan Paper Corporation has made the following progress in respect of the three projects it has in hand:

#### *Nagaland Pulp & Paper Project :*

A subsidiary company was registered on the 14th September, 1971. Land for the project has been acquired. Some engineering staff etc. is already in position and some staff quarters have also been constructed. The detailed project Report has been submitted and is in the final stage of clearance by the Government. Arrangements for procurement of plant and machinery required, have been taken in hand. The National Development Corporation, a public sector project, is being associated with the whole project as consultants and detailed design work etc. has been taken up. Training of some prospective workers has also been arranged at the Institute of Paper Technology at Saharanpur. Raw material sources have been ensured and their suitability has been established.

#### *Assam Nowgong Project :*

The site for this project has been selected and a project cell has been set up in Assam.