

Telephone and Telegraph Services at Sursand Post Office, District Muzaffarpur

3351. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been frequent complaints of telephone and telegraph services at Sursand Post Office in Muzaffarpur District of Bihar and a communication dated the 6th April, 1972 was sent to him in this regard; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

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

(a) Three complaints were received in the P. & T. Directorate during the Calendar year 1971 and 1972 including the communication dated 6-4-1972 regarding telephone and telegraph services at Sursand Post Office.

(b) The steps taken for improvement of services are as follows:—

(i) Copper wire on Sitamarhi-Muzaffarpur and Sitamarhi-Darbhanga trunk lines have been replaced by Copper Weld and ACSR wires in August, 1971 and November, 1972 respectively.

(ii) Carsac primary cells have been provided at Sitamarhi Combined Office to ensure steady supply of power to Sursand-Sitamarhi telegraph circuit.

Import of Raw Materials for Priority Industries

3352. SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have relaxed the import policy in respect of raw materials and components required by priority industries; and

(b) if so, the number and names of the priority industries?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b). The existing policy is as laid down in the document "Import Control Policy for the year 1972-73", copies of which have already been placed on the Table of the House by the Minister for Foreign Trade. Priority Industries are contained in Appendix I of Vol. I thereof.

Payment of Pension to Freedom Fighters

3353. SHRI NIMBALKAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of freedom fighters eligible for pension who have already started receiving them; and

(b) how many of them have died even before they had started receiving the pension?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House after it has been received.

Delhi Telephone Services

3354. SHRI NIMBALKAR: SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY.

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any basic technical defect in the Delhi Telephone Exchange system; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken for the improvement of the services rendered by the Delhi Telephone Exchange personnel?

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

(a) There is no basic technical defect