

programme have been given in para. 6.2 of Chapter VI of the Annual Report of the Ministry of Home Affairs for the year 1973-74. Further steps taken during 1973-74 for the use of Hindi for official purposes of the Union have been specified in para 6.3 of this Report.

(d) Yes, Sir. In this connection reference may be made to para. 6.4 of the aforesaid Report.

Saving Bank facilities in Post Office in Kerala

3761. SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of post offices now functioning in Kerala in which Saving Bank Account facilities are available; and

(b) how this figure compares with that in adjacent States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (PROF. SHER SINGH): (a) The total number of Post Offices now functioning in Kerala State in 4037 out of which Savings Bank facilities are available in 4036 post offices.

(b)	Total No. of Post Offices functioning in adjacent States	Total No. of Post Offices in adjacent States where S.B. facilities are available
Kerala State	4037	4036
Tamil Nadu State	10945	10942
Karnataka State	8539	8539

Progress regarding work on Rural Electrification Schemes for Kerala during 1973-74

3762. SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether work on the rural electrification schemes sanctioned for Kerala during 1973-74 by Rural Electrification Corporation is not in good progress; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to speed up the work?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b). The Rural Electrification Corporation Ltd. had sanctioned four schemes of the Kerala State Electricity Board during 1973-74. These schemes involve a loan assistance of Rs. 139.25 lakhs and are phased for completion over a period of 4 years. At present these schemes are in the initial stages of implementation. The Kerala State Electricity Board has been experiencing difficulties in the procurement of materials. However, all efforts are being made by the Board to meet the shortage and complete the works according to schedule.

Irrigation Facilities for Kerala in First Year of Fifth Plan

3763. SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the irrigation facilities to be extended to the State of Kerala during the First Year of the Fifth Five Year Plan have been finalised; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Seven major irrigation Projects already under construction in the