

The gestation period in the newsprint industry being long, the domestic production will continue to be substantially short of the requirements for the next several years.

Future of Hindi speaking Areas of Fazilka and Abohar

2289. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken regarding the future of the Hindi speaking areas of Fazilka and Abohar in Punjab since the last date for the implementation of the earlier Award on this issue has already expired;

(b) if so, the nature of the decision and the date on which it was taken; and

(c) if not, the likely date by which the decision would be taken so as to put an end to the uncertainty regarding the future of these areas?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. BRAHMANANDA REDDY):

(a) The decision of the Government in regard to transfer of Fazilka-Abohar area is contained in the Press Communique dated the 29th January, 1970. It was stated therein that the transfer of the said area will be effected simultaneously with the transfers to be decided upon on the recommendations of the Commission to be appointed to go into other claims and counter-claims for readjustment of inter-State boundaries of Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh. Consultations with the State Governments concerned on various matters arising out of the Press Communique, including the question of appointment of the Commission, are proceeding.

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

Transferring the P.C.O. at Naina Devi

2290. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the P & T Authorities have received a suggestion for transferring the P.C.O. at Naina Devi to Dharamsala Telegraph Engineering Division since Naina Devi is located in Himachal Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the action taken on this suggestion?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Naina Devi P.C.O. is located in Himachal Pradesh very close to its border with Punjab State. It is connected to the Telephone Exchange at Nangal which is in Punjab State. The lines connecting the P.C.O. to the parent exchange at Nangal also lie mostly in Punjab territory. Considering these, the P.C.O. has been retained in the jurisdiction of Patiala Engineering Division to ensure adequate maintenance and operative attention.

Opening of a P.C.O. in Ladraur, Himachal Pradesh

2291. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a request has been made for the sanction and installation of a P.C.O. on a pair of parallel wires at Ladraur, in Jharlog Panchayat of Hamirpur District of Himachal Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the decision taken by the authorities on this request?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The case is under examination and the decision is yet to be taken.

Complaints of Black Marketing in Newsprint

2292. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state: