

maintained in the various Regional Offices of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation was as follows:—

1965-66	: 28.68 lakhs
1966-67	: 31.33 „
1967-68	: 32.63 „ (as on 30-11-67)

(b) The sanctioned strength of the Regional Offices of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation was as follows:—

1965-66	: 40,32
1966-67	: 4,185
1967-68	: 4,448 (as on 30-11-1967)

(c) There has been an increase in the number of employees but the increase is not proportionate to the increase in the number of accounts as additional staff is sanctioned for the enforcement side on the basis of the number of establishments and for the accounts side on the basis of the number of accounts.

#### BONUS FOR PROCUREMENT OF FOODGRAINS

4710. SHRI V. NARASIMHA RAO : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government distributed bonus to the States through the Food Corporation of India who shared in procuring rice/wheat;

(b) the amount of bonus given to each State so far;

(c) whether any instructions have been given to the states to utilise the said amount for the development of Agriculture; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) Incentive bonus on wheat only is paid to the Government of Punjab through the F.C.I.

(b) Information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the Sabha.

(c) Bonus is paid to State Governments mainly for implementing schemes for the benefit of agriculturists.

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(d) Does not arise.

#### POST OFFICES, SAVING BANKS, TELEGRAPHS OFFICES AND TELEPHONE EXCHANGES IN ORISSA

4712. SHRI BAIDHAR BEHFRA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Post Offices, Savings Banks, Telegraph Offices and Telephone Exchanges proposed to be opened in the rural areas of Orissa State during the Fourth Plan period; and

(b) the number and the location of Post Offices, Telegraph Offices and Telephone Exchanges proposed to be opened in Cuttack District during the above period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a) The Fourth Plan of the Posts and Telegraphs Department has not been finalised yet. However, subject to fulfilment of departmental standards and availability of funds, it is likely that 600 post offices, 109 telegraph offices and 19 telephone exchanges will be opened in the rural areas of Orissa State during the quinquennium 1966-1971. All departmental post offices are authorised to transact Savings Bank work. No target has been fixed for vesting Extra Departmental Branch Offices with Savings Bank powers as for a five-year period.

(b) 102 post offices, 7 telegraph offices and 2 telephone exchanges are likely to be established in the rural areas of Cuttack district during the same period. Of these 32 post offices and 1 telephone exchange have already been provided with effect from 1st April, 1966. Some of the places where, subject to fulfilment of departmental standards and availability of funds, post offices, telegraph offices and