

However, Metre Gauge services will continue to run in this section.

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

Official of AIR, New Delhi

2924. DR. ARVIND SHARMA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the norms fixed in regard to transfer of officials of AIR, New Delhi;

(b) the Number of officials working on the same station from 15-20 years, station-wise;

(c) the reasons for their long stay at the same station;

(d) the number of officials transferred within a short period, station-wise;

(e) the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the Government propose to adopt a comprehensive policy in this regard;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (h). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Introduction of Passenger Train

2925. SHRI BALAI CHANDRA RAY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the demand for introduction of passenger train from Asansol to Suri, Bolpur, Azimganj, Sahibganj and North-West States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any steps have been taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the main hurdles which are being faced by the Government to introduce such services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). Some representations have been received including from Shri Haradhan Roy, MP.

(c) to (e). Asansol is linked with direct services to North-Western States viz. Rajasthan and Punjab. Introduction of additional trains from Asansol has been examined but not found feasible on account of operational and resource constraints.

[Translation]

Post Office to Rural People

2926. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether many villages of Gujarat are without postal facilities;

(b) if so, the details alongwith number thereof: district-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide postal facilities in those villages; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Out of a total number of 18028 inhabited villages in Gujarat, 9949 villages do not have Post Offices.

(b) District-wise numbers are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d). Post Offices are opened progressively under Annual plan Schemes subject to norm based justification and availability of resources.

STATEMENT

District-wise Information regarding Villages with Post Offices and without Post Offices as on 31-3-96.

In Gujarat

S.No.	Name of District	No. of Villages (Inhabited)	No. of Villages with P.O.	No. of Villages Without P.O.
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Ahmedabad	665	421	244
2.	Gandhinagar	73	59	14
3.	Mehsana	1145	296	849
4.	Banaskantha	1368	434	934
5.	Sabarkantha	1363	796	567
6.	Bharuch	1065	477	588
7.	Dang	309	56	253
8.	Kheda	960	568	392
9.	Panchmahals	1885	510	1375
10.	Surat	1196	553	643
11.	Vadodara	1648	609	1039
12.	Valsad	824	530	294
13.	Amreli	584	305	279
14.	Bhavnagar	865	425	440
15.	Jamnagar	707	342	365