

1	2	3	4
21.	Mumbai	230000	29090
22.	Delhi	220000	13126
23.	Calcutta	112000	45770
24.	Chennai	115000	5684
Total		3600000	381946

Strength of Postal Employees

4675. SHRI PRABHASH CHANDRA TIWARI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the strength of postal employees in various States in the country is far below the requirement;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to increase the strength of postal employees particularly the postman; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) Determining staff requirement for postal services according to fluctuations in postal traffic is an ongoing process with reviews conducted periodically. Proposals for justified additional staff are processed according to prescribed procedure. Hence, the question of staff strength being far below the requirement does not arise.

(b) The question does not arise.

(c) and (d) Proposals for increasing the strength of postal employees in different categories including postman, are considered as and when found justified.

Integrated Rural Energy Programme

4676. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any works have been carried out in the States particularly in Maharashtra under the Integrated Rural Energy Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount spent thereon during each of the last three years; and

(d) the achievement made in this regard, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c): As part of the Integrated Rural Energy Programme, block-level integrated rural energy projects are prepared and implemented under which various energy devices are promoted through extension, demonstration and incentives for meeting the energy needs of the rural people. 37 blocks have been covered in Maharashtra under IRFP programme. The various energy devices promoted in IREP blocks in Maharashtra include, Improved Chulhas, Wind Mills, Solar Cookers, Solar Photovoltaic System, Improved Kerosene Stoves and Lanterns, Aerogenerators, Improved Crematoria, Bio gas plants, Energy Efficient devices etc. Rs. 190.11 lakhs, Rs. 139.365 lakhs and Rs. 101.00 lakhs have been spent during 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 respectively in Maharashtra under the Central and State Sector components of IREP.

(d) The Integrated Rural Energy Programme (IREP) has been extended to 860 blocks in all the States and Union territories. State-wise number of blocks sanctioned till 1997-98 for implementation of IREP is given in statement enclosed.

Statement

State-wise number of IREP Blocks sanctioned till 1997-98

S. No.	Name of the States/UTs	No. of Blocks Sanctioned
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	32
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	10
3.	Assam	21
4.	Bihar	56
5.	Goa	5
6.	Gujarat	25
7.	Haryana	38
8.	Himachal Pradesh	45