

on 30.11.1998. State-wise installations of SPV water pumping systems during the last three years is given in statement attached. SPV water pumping systems in the capacity range of 200 Watt to 2250 Watt are eligible for subsidy and soft loan. Government is providing a subsidy of up to Rs. 2,00,000 for each pumping system at the rate of Rs. 125 per peak watt of solar photovoltaic array used with it. In addition, there is a provision in the scheme for a soft loan of up to Rs. 2,50,000 per system depending upon the capacity of PV array used.

Statement

State-wise Installation Of SPV Water Pumping Systems

State/UT	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
Andhra Pradesh	93	102	41
Assam	12	17	0
Andaman & Nicobar	0	0	0
Bihar	26	40	15
Chandigarh	7	0	0
Dadra Nagar Haveli	0	0	0
Delhi	16	18	8
Gujarat	2	15	2
Goa	10	2	0
Haryana	9	4	7
Himachal Pradesh	1	0	5
Jammu & Kashmir	7	4	1
Karnataka	35	47	71
Kerala	100	82	102
Madhya Pradesh	8	4	23
Maharashtra	55	27	8
Manipur	1	0	11
Mizoram	2	26	0
Orissa	0	0	1
Punjab	48	29	3
Pondicherry	0	0	0
Rajasthan	61	47	80
Tamil Nadu	207	93	112
Uttar Pradesh	35	26	36
West Bengal	3	27	2
Total	738	610	528

Postal Services

1823. SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- whether postal services are not upto the mark in the north region of Maharashtra;
- if so, the reasons therefor;
- the total deposits made in the region in post offices during the last three years, year-wise;
- whether Government propose to introduce some schemes to attract more investment in the post offices;
- if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) Postal Services in the North Region comprising three districts viz: Dhule, Jalgaon and Bhusaval are generally satisfactory.

(b) In view of reply to Part (a), does not arise.

(c) Total deposits made in the post offices in the north region of Maharashtra during the last three years are as under:-

1995-96 Rs. 257.52 Crores

1996-97 Rs. 106.57 Crores

1997-98 Rs. 755.32 Crores

(d) There is no such proposal for the present.

(e) In view of reply to part (d) above, does not arise.

Haj Pilgrims

1824. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any memorandum from Kerala Government regarding various problems faced by Haj pilgrims from Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government; and

(c) the number of Haj Pilgrims from Kerala during 1998?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir. The Hon'ble Minister for Local Administration, Government of Kerala, had written a letter to Prime Minister in May, 1998.

(b) The letter contained suggestions pertaining to the welfare of haj pilgrims from Kerala, such as the utilisation of Trivandrum airport for haj charter flights and increased involvement of Keralites in haj management in India and Saudi Arabia.

The suggestions of the Kerala Government are being