

(b) the criteria adopted for appointing the Ambassadors/High Commissioners in the foreign countries; and

(c) the number of Ambassadors/High Commissioners belonging to the scheduled caste/scheduled tribe categories out of them?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) The number of countries where resident Ambassadors/High Commissioners have been appointed by the Government of India is 110. Several of them cover other countries concurrently.

(b) Ambassadors/High Commissioners are appointed on the basis of a number of considerations, *inter alia* seniority, career, background, relevant experience, suitability for the post.

(c) The number of Ambassadors/High Commissioners belonging to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe categories is 22.

Telegraph Offices in U.P.

2733. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is shortage of telegraph offices in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to set up more telegraph offices during 1998-99 in the State;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) In view of policy of the Department to provide independent Telegraph office at each district headquarter irrespective of quantum of telegraph traffic, there is a proposal to upgrade telegraph facility at 10 District Headquarters, namely Chandauli, Mahoba, Kannauj, Auraiya, Sant Kabirdas Nagar, Balrampur, Chhatrapati Sahuji Maharajnagar, Sarawasti, Kausambhi and Champawat during the year 1998-99.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Extradition of Criminals

2734. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether underworld Don Dawood Ibrahim, his brothers and other close aides have been arrested;

(b) whether the Government have no extradition treaty with UAE;

(c) if so, the manner in which Government would get them extradited;

(d) whether the Government have already taken up the matter with Dubai; and

(e) if so, the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Government has no confirmation about Dawood Ibrahim and his relatives or close aides having been arrested.

(b) An Extradition Treaty with United Arab Emirates has been negotiated and is expected to be formally signed upon completion of necessary formalities by both countries.

(c) to (e) The Government have taken up the matter with UAE. Government is using all possible legal and diplomatic means at its disposal to bring the alleged fugitive criminals back to justice in India.

Central Cattle Breeding Farm

2735. SHRI JUAL ORAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any complaint from employees against the malpractices in the office of the Director of Central Cattle Breeding Farm, Sunabeda District Koraput in Orissa.

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) the remedial steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir. Complaints have been received against the malpractices in the Office of the Director of Central Cattle Breeding Farm, Sunabeda District Koraput in Orissa.

(b) These complaints *inter-alia* relate to alleged autocratic and rude behaviour of the Director and some of the officers of the farm and also; misuse of resources; and also regarding other administrative matters.

(c) Officers from the Ministry have been instructed to visit the farm more frequently to supervise the functioning of the farm.