

[*Translation*]

Computerisation of Dak Sorting in Bihar

1241. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken steps to computerise dak sorting in some cities of Bihar;

(b) if so, the names of those cities;

(c) whether it is proposed to extend the said facility to some more cities during the current year and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the names of the cities in Bihar where dak sorting is likely to be computerised during the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Strengthening of Fishermen Co-operative Societies in Kerala

1242. PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to strengthen the Fishermen Co-operative Societies in Kerala;

(b) whether any complaint has been received regarding the functioning of the Fishermen Co-operative Societies in Kerala;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken on this complaint?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The State Government of Kerala have organised

the marine and inland fishermen into 104 Fishermen Development Welfare Co-operative Societies, besides organising 50 Co-operative Societies for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, in tribal areas etc, for rehabilitating them in reservoir fishing, etc.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The complaint received by the State Government is that the eligible fishermen were not given membership in the co-operative societies.

(d) The State Government of Kerala have issued strict instructions to the societies to give membership to all eligible fishermen who apply for membership.

[*Translation*]

Establishment of Development Boards in Maharashtra

1243. SHRI MORESHWAR SAVE:

SHRI PANDURANG PUNDLIK FUNDKAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the process of establishment of separate Development Boards for Vidarbha, Marathwada and Konkan regions of Maharashtra has started;

(b) if so, the progress made in this regard so far; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) to (c) The Government of Maharashtra have sent proposals at different points of time for setting up of Development Boards for Vidarbha, Marathwada and the rest of Maharashtra in terms of article 371(2) of the