

1	2	3	4	5
15. Punjab		1	-	1
Chandigarh		-	-	-
16. Rajasthan		1	-	1
17. Tamil Nadu		1	2	15
Pondicherry		-	-	-
18. Uttar Pradesh		2	2	1
19. West Bengal		-	-	-
Sikkim		-	-	-
Andaman & Nicobar		-	-	-
Total		35	21	42

STATEMENT-II

Target fixed for opening of departmental sub-post offices during 1996-97

S.No.	Name of Circle	Target DSO*
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5
2.	Assam	4
3.	Bihar	11
4.	Delhi	10
5.	Gujarat	12
6.	Haryana	10
7.	Himachal Pradesh	10
8.	J and K	2
9.	Karnataka	10
10.	Kerala	9
11.	Madhya Pradesh	9
12.	Maharashtra	12
13.	North East	4
14.	Orissa	4
15.	Punjab	4
16.	Rajasthan	10
17.	Tamilnadu	4
18.	Uttar Pradesh	16
19.	West Bengal	4
Total		150

* Departmental sub post office.

STATEMENT-III

Criteria for Upgradation of Extra Departmental Branch Post Office and Extra Departmental Sub Post Office into Departmental Sub Post Office

1. The minimum daily workload of the Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices/Extra Departmental Sub Post Offices should be at least five hours.

2. The annual loss should not be more than Rs. 2400/- per annum in normal rural areas and Rs. 4800/- per annum in tribal and hilly areas. In Urban areas the post office should be initially self-supporting. At the time of the first annual review, it should show 5% profit to be eligible for further retention. The profit and loss is assessed according to the formula of income and cost, followed by the Department. This formula takes into consideration the income of the office from sale of stamps and stationery, postage collected on uppaid and insufficiently paid articles, commission on money orders and Indian Postal Orders issued and paid by the Office and Savings banks transactions. A percentage of the total inflow of revenue on these accounts is taken for calculating the income of a Post Office. The cost of the Post Office is based on the establishment charges, rental liability, fixed stationery charges and value of stamps and stationery sold to cover the cost of printing of stamps and stationery etc.

3. The distance between two post offices should not be less than 1.5 Km. in cities with a population of 20 lakhs and above, and 2 Kms. in other urban areas. If it is a delivery post office, the distance from the nearest delivery post office should not be less than 5 Kms.

Heads of Circles have powers to relax the distance condition in 10% of the cases.

Criteria for Upgradation of a Sub Post Office to Head Post Office

A sub Post Office is upgraded to Head Post Office by bifurcating the accounts jurisdiction of an existing Head Post Office when the number of sub post offices under it exceeds 60. There is a further stipulation that after bifurcating the number of sub post offices to be placed under the existing Head Post Office and the proposed Head Post Office is not less than 20. A Head Post Office can also be created in a district if there are 20 sub offices in that district to be placed under the account jurisdiction of the proposed Head Office. In hilly and backward areas, the norms can be relaxed if there is appreciable advantage in financing the Post Offices by upgradation of a sub post office into a Head Post Office.

[Translation]

Doordarshan/AIR, Bihar

2478. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

- (a) the amount allocated to Doordarshan and All India Radio centres in Bihar, head-wise;

(b) the amount utilized by these centres out of the amount allocated to them, head-wise;

(c) whether the accounts of these centres have been audited; and

(d) if so, the details thereof separately?

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

[English]

Mentally Retarded Persons

2479. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of mentally handicapped in the age group of 6-14 years in the country;

(b) the number of institutions set up in the country to provide training and also treatment to these persons;

(c) the training capacity of each of these institutions;

(d) whether the Government are aware that the number of mentally retarded is much more than the capacity created in the country for their training and rehabilitation; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to improve the prevailing situation?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) No survey has been conducted for assessing the number of mentally handicapped persons in the country in the age group of 6-14. However, a sample survey conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) in 1991 for persons with delayed mental development between 1-14 age, estimates that about 3% of the estimated child population has delayed mental development. Certain studies conducted by some organisations suggest that about 2-2.5% of estimated population suffer from mental retardation.

(b) and (c). According to the information furnished by Rehabilitation Council of India, the total number of institutions providing services (including training) during the year 1995 in the field of mental retardation was 626. Each organisation has an average capacity of 40 children.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The Ministry of Welfare has established National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped at Secunderabad with the primary objective to train professionals to provide services of rehabilitation and special education. The Institute has 5 Regional Centres at Calcutta, Mumbai, New Delhi, Patna and Dimapur. In addition, the Institute has 13 supported centres and 7 affiliated centres which provide training to special educators.

Apart from this, Ministry of Welfare has been giving grant-in-aid to the voluntary organisations for training and rehabilitation of the mentally retarded persons. Setting up of a National Trust has also been proposed for providing total care to persons with mental retardation and cerebral palsy and also to manage the properties bequeathed to them.

A comprehensive Act, namely, The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 has been enacted as Act No. 1 of 1996 for ensuring the provision of preventive and promotional aspects of rehabilitation, social security measures etc.

Setting up of TV Studio in Sikkim

2480. SHRI R.B. RAI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representations for setting up of a TV studio/centre at Gangtok in Sikkim;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to set up a TV studio/centre at Gangtok; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (d). Representations are received from various quarters, including the representatives of the people, for expansion of TV service throughout the country including the State of Sikkim. TV Studio at Gangtok in Sikkim is at present under implementation. Site has been taken over, building plans finalised and most of the equipments procured. Meanwhile, a play back facility has been provided at the High Power TV Transmitter (HPT), Gangtok w.e.f. 14.7.1996.

[Translation]

Financial Assistance for Development of Deva Tourist Centre

2481. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have provided any financial assistance for the development of Deva Tourist centre in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether in view of the importance of Deva Tourist centre, the amount of the assistance provided by the Union Government is very less;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;