

(b) if so, the details of post offices in the North-East where these services have been provided;

(c) whether Government propose to expand these services in other remote areas of the North-East particularly in Assam;

(d) if so, the details thereof, location-wise; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the North East, the Department has established 8 Very Small Aperture Terminals (VSATs) at Guwahati, Tezpur, Dibrugarh, Silchar, Shillong, Agartala, Aizawl and Kohima for transmission of money orders, Hybrid Mail and Corporate Money Orders through Satellite network. In addition to this, 14 more Post Offices namely, Tinsukia HO, Jorhat HO, Sibsagar HO, Golaghat HO, Silchar Medical College SO, Nalbari HO, Naogaon HO, Dhubri HO, Bogaigaon SO, Karimganj HO, Hailakandi SO, Haflong SO, Mangaldoi HO and Panchgram PO have been connected to the four VSATs in Assam Circle for transmitting/receiving Satellite Money Orders, Hybrid Mail and Corporate Money Orders. In North-East Circle, 4 Post Offices namely, Imphal HO, Laitmukhra SO (Shillong), Tura HO and Dimapur HO have been connected to the VSAT network.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) As a part of further expansion of VSAT network, the Department has supplied equipment at 10 additional post offices under Guwahati VSAT namely, Barpeta HO, Golapara SO, Marigaon SO, Dephu SO, Hojai SO, Lumding SO, Gosaigaon SO, Dudhmoi SO, Baihata SO and Jaklabhanda SO.

(e) Not applicable in view of (d) above.

#### **Pollution of Drinking Water**

2989. DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether industries situated on the banks of the rivers are polluting the drinking water;

(b) whether the water treatment plants installed by the industries are not working properly;

(c) whether many of the High Courts have registered cases against such industries; and

(d) if so, the concrete action the Government propose to take to check the pollution of drinking water by the industries, to ensure proper working of the treatment plants and to order closure of all such industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) and (b) The Central Pollution Control Board and the State Pollution Control Boards are monitoring 17-

categories of industries considered to be highly polluting in nature and discharging their effluents into drains and water bodies including rivers for compliance of discharge standards and protection of drinking water resources. As on 15.6.1998 the number of defaulting industries not complying with the discharge standards is 574.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Punitive actions are being taken against the defaulting industries by the respective State Pollution Control Boards under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. The Central Pollution Control Board has issued directions under Section 18(l) (b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, to all the State Pollution Control Boards to ensure that the defaulting industries take necessary action for complying with the prescribed standards within a stipulated time, failing which closure notices may be issued against such industries. The Central Pollution Control Board has also appointed Regional Committees to monitor the implementation of these directions.

#### **New Mumbai in CRZ-II**

2990. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the entire Brihan Mumbai including new Mumbai is covered by category CRZ (Coastal Regulation Zone)-II as per the Coastal Regulation Zone and approved by Coastal zone Management Plants;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) whether seaward side of the existing roads like in Juhu etc. are treated as CRZ-II and construction activity is allowed there;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) and (b) The Central Government have approved the coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP) of Maharashtra on 27.9.96 with certain conditions. As per Condition No. B.20 of the approval letter the State Government of Maharashtra has to constitute a Committee under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary to examine categorisation of the proposed CRZ-II areas and send a copy of the final categorisation for the record of the Ministry of Environment and Forests. The State Government informed this Ministry that they were taking necessary action in this regard.

(c) to (e) As per the guidelines under the CRZ Notification of 1991, CRZ-II has been defined as the areas that have already been developed upto or close to the shore line.

Construction of buildings is permitted only on the landward side of the existing road (s) (or road (s) proposed in the approved CZMP of the area) or on the landward side of the existing authorised structures.