

Gandhi Smaraka Nidhi and the Gandhi Hill Foundation. As per the Memorandum of Understanding, the employees of the Gandhi Hill Foundation are not the liability of the NCSM. However, immediately after signing Lease Deed a Court Case was filed in the District Munsif Court, Vijaywada by some of these employees before National Council of Science Museums could take the physical possession of the land for setting up the Science Centre.

Further, as per the Memorandum of understanding, 50% of the funds for the project are to be provided by the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh and 50% by the Union Govt. through NCSM under Plan. So far no funds have been provided to the NCSM by either of these Governments.

Since the matter is sub-judice, the NCSM is unable to proceed further.

IGNOU

3803. SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number students registered with IGNOU all over India;

(b) the number of centres of IGNOU supplying books, programme guides etc. to students;

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to decentralise the supply of books and other material to students; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (d) According to the information furnished by the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), the total number of students registered with the University all over India during 1997-98 is 1,63,394. The study material to the students is despatched centrally by the Headquarters by post. However, the University had decentralised during 1998 the despatch of study material in respect of Management and Computer Programmes through six Regional Warehouses located at Delhi, Lucknow, Pune, Hyderabad, Bhopal and Calcutta. The network of Students Support Services spread through out the country consists of 19 Regional Centres, 240 Study Centres and 17 Recognised Study Centres.

Letter Boxes in U.P.

[*Translation*]

3804. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of letter boxes provided in Uttar Pradesh district-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the number of letter boxes in view of new colonies coming up and rise in population;

(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) The district-wise details of the number of letter boxes provided in Uttar Pradesh is given in enclosed Statement.

(b) to (d) Letter boxes are being provided in new colonies coming up and in areas where there is a rise in population based on the various factors like assessment of traffic, density of population and distance from the nearest letter box. This is an ongoing exercise and request from the public are also considered.

Statement

The number of letter boxes provided in all distts. in UP District-wise.

S. No.	Name of District	No. of letter boxes provided
1	2	3
1.	Agra	1045
2.	Firozabad	807
3.	Aligarh	1988
4.	Maha Maya Nagar	New Distt. figures are included in Aligarh Distt.
5.	Bulandsahar	1295
6.	Ētan	1330
7.	Etawah	1657
8.	Auriaya	New Distt. figures are included in Ētawah Distt.
9.	Jhansi	799
10.	Jalaun	1053
11.	Lalitpur	740
12.	Mainpuri	685
13.	Mathura	992
14.	Allahabad	2481
15.	Kaushambi	750
16.	Pratapgarh	1568
17.	Ghazipur	1748
18.	Jaunpur	3104
19.	Sonbhadra	1076
20.	Varanasi	1285
21.	Bhadoi	614