

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA): (a) and (b). There is no proposal for further restructuring IRDP, NREP and RLEGP have been restructured with their merger and launching of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) in April, 1989. Besides, Government have also decided to make a beginning of employment guarantee programme in the rural areas in selected districts from the current year; the details of this are being worked out.

Post Offices in Rural Areas of Maharashtra

*695. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Sub Post Offices and Branch Post Offices in Maharashtra;

(b) whether demands have been received for setting up of more Post Offices especially in the rural areas of the State; and

(c) if so, the total number of Post Offices, Sub Post offices and Branch Post Offices likely to be opened in Maharashtra during 1990-91?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) As on 1.1.1990 there were 2168 sub post offices and 9516 branch post offices in Maharashtra.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) So far, sanctions have been issued for 6 sub post offices and 69 branch post offices to be opened in Maharashtra during 1990-91.

Pending Letters from Members of Parliament for Action

*696. SHRI RAM SAGAR (Saidpur): Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of letters received from the Members of Parliament for final disposal during the last three years which are still pending; and

(b) the details of steps taken to expedite the replies thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) and (b). The details of the information in this regard are being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Telephone Connections to M.P.s' Recommendations

*697. SHRI SUBEDAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the answer given on 29 March, 1990 to Unstarred Question No. 2620 regarding telephone connections on the recommendations of Members of Parliament and state:

(a) when the telephones released on the recommendations of Members of Parliament in March, 1990 are actually to be installed and made operative; and

(b) the number of letters of Members of Parliament received upto 15th April, 1990 for grant of telephone connection on priority basis still pending and when will action be completed on such letters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Telephone connections sanctioned on out of turn priority basis including those sanctioned on the