

was seized in Delhi on 10 June, 1990; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of arrests made in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) No seizure was made on 10th June, 1990. However, on 8th June, 1990, 6 Kg of heroin was seized by Delhi Police.

(b) A case under section 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and psychotropic substances Act, 1985 has been registered at Police Station, Kotwali on 8th June, 1990. Three persons have been arrested.

Improvement in Delivery of Letters

*423. SHRIMANORANJAN BHAKATA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that it usually takes a letter between four to seven days to reach from one capital city to another, while it should take only twenty four hours as per the Government norms;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to improve the performance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) and (b). It is not a fact that as per the Government norms, mails from one Capital city to another is to be delivered within 24 hours.

Transmission time for mails delivery among State Capitals is fixed according to the availability of transport connection. It is possible that a letter might have taken 4 to 7 days to reach its destination due to some transport difficulties from one capital city to another.

(c) Daily and periodic mail monitoring is conducted to test transmission performance.

Funds to Andhra Pradesh Under ARWSP

*424. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government propose to release special funds to Andhra Pradesh Government under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme to solve the problem of drinking water in the villages of Chittoor district;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA VERMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) District-wise allocation of Central assistance under the Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme is decided by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh.

Shipping Service Between West Coast and Australia

*425. SHRI C. SRINIVASAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to allow the private companies based in India to operate the shipping service between West Coast and Australia in order to curb the freight rates being increased by the foreign Shipping Corporation of India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). Trade between West Coast of India and Australia is being served by members of the West Coast of India—Australia Freight Agreement, whose only Indian member is Shipping Corporation of India. This route is also served by some non-Member foreign lines. Shipping Corporation of India suspended its service from 30th June, 1990 due to heavy losses.

The general question of whether Indian Shipping Companies who are not members of Conference Lines/Freight Agreements ought to be permitted to operate shipping services on liner Conference Routes is under consideration of the Government.

Issue of Postage Stamps

*426. **SHRI P.M. SAYEED:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new postage stamps recommended by the Philatelic Advisory Committee during the last two years and those actually issued by the Postal Department;

(b) the number of postage stamps proposed to be issued in the near future;

(c) the approximate cost of a stamp to be designed and issued; and

(d) the estimated cost of the stamp proposed to be issued to mark the Diamond Jubilee of New Delhi and the Centenary of Air Mail Post separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) 60 (Sixty) proposals for commemorative/special postage stamps have been recommended by the Committee during the last 2 years and 83 commemorative/special postage stamps have actually been issued during this period.

(b) 31 stamps are proposed to be issued by the end of this year.

(c) the cost of a stamp depends on various factors like its dimensions, number of colours used, type of paper used etc. According to the latest information, the cost of commemorative/special postage stamps varies from 8.75 paise to 40 per stamp

(d) The designs of the stamps to mark the Diamond Jubilee of the New Delhi and the Centenary of Air Mail Post Card are yet to be finalised. The cost of these stamps is likely to vary from 8.75 paise to 40 paise per stamp, depending on the number of colours used and type of papers used etc.

Change in the Name of the Country From India to Hindustan

@1. **PROF. RAMGANESH KAPSE:**
PROF. PREM KUMAR DHU-
MAL:
SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR
GANGWAR:

Will Shri Ram Naik, M.P. be pleased to refer to the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 1989 introduced by him in the House on 29.12.89 and state:

(a) precisely the objects besides those mentioned by him in the Statement of Objects and Reasons appended to the Bill, he has in view in suggesting amendment to the Constitution to change the word "India" to the word "Hindustan";