

pated in the Mahe Liberation Struggle, receiving Freedom Fighters' pension from Union Government;

(b) the number of applications from such persons still pending with Union Government duly recommended by the Pondicherry Government; and

(c) the steps taken by Union Government for their expeditious disposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) According to Pondicherry Administration, 67 freedom fighters from Mahe are drawing freedom fighters pension.

(b) All applications received through the Pondicherry administration upto the prescribed date, i.e. 31.3.1982 were considered and decisions communicated to the applicants. However, where applicants, whose claims had not been accepted, furnish additional evidence, the cases are reviewed. This is a continuing process. At present, two references from Mahe received through the Pondicherry administration are under consideration.

(c) Disposal of such cases is given priority.

#### **Separate Head Post Office for Wyanad District in Kerala**

8128. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Districts in Kerala where there is no Head Post Office;

(b) the number of Postal Regions in Kerala;

(c) under which Region/Head Post

Office does the Wyanad District fall;

(d) whether complaints/representations have been received regarding inordinate delay in delivery of Posts in Wyanad District of Kerala; and if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) There is only one district i.e. Wyanad in Kerala Circle without a Head Post Office.

(b) There are three Regions in Kerala Circle viz.

i) Trivandrum

ii) Calicut

iii) Cochin

(c) Wyanad district is under Calicut region and is served by two Head Post Offices i.e. Calicut and Tellichery.

(d) and (e). Some complaints were received in the year 1988 in connection with delay in delivery of mail. The Chief Postmaster General, Kerala Circle reviewed the mail arrangements to eliminate delays.

[ Translation ]

#### **Tree Plantation for Soil Conservation**

8129. SHRI HARI SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether trees are planted by Agriculture Department (Soil Conservation) in villages;

(b) whether it is a fact that these trees

are planted very late i.e. in July or August (in monsoon season) and whether these trees are not made available from nurseries in time,

(c) the average percentage of survival of trees planted,

(d) whether Government have taken any action to inquire into the non-availability of trees in time or fictitious trees shown only on papers and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA) (a) Yes, Sir Planting of trees is one of the components of the Soil Conservation Scheme and tree planting on private/community waste/marginal lands, in some cases, is done by Agriculture Departments of the States

(b) The planting is mostly done in June, July and August depending upon the time of onset of monsoon. No reports of non-availability of plants from the nurseries in time have been received by this Ministry

(c) Survival percentage ranges from about 40% to 90% depending upon the soil,

climatic conditions and other factors.

(d) and (e) The tree plantation programmes are closely monitored by the concerned Departments of the State Governments. Necessary corrective measures are taken by them as and when any lapses/irregularities are detected

#### Telephone Facility in Maharashtra

8130 SHRIHARISHANKAR MAHALE  
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) the district-wise number of villages in Maharashtra, where telephone facility has been provided so far, and

(b) the number of villages in Maharashtra proposed to be provided with telephone facility during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) (a) The district-wise list of number of villages in Maharashtra where telephone facility has been provided as on 31 3 1990 is given in attached statement

(b) The number of villages in Maharashtra proposed to be provided with telephone facility is 1500

#### STATEMENT

*District wise number villages in Maharashtra, where telephone facility has been provided upto 31 3 90*

<i>Sl No</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>No of villages with telephones</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
1	Ahmednagar	194
2	Akola	99