

[English]

**New Telecom Committee in New Bombay**

\*99. SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new Telecom. Committee has been formed by the Telecom. Commis-

— Chief Minister, Maharashtra

— Chief Secretary

— Punjab Sector Fin. Institutions

— Consumer Activists

— Press

— Industries Association

— Rep. of CIDCO

— Rep. of State Government

— Rep. of Deptt. of Telecom/(MTNL) and VSNL)

sion in New Bombay; and

(b) if so, the composition of the Telecom Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Committee with 13 Members was constituted. The composition is as follows:

— Chairman

— Alternate Chairman

— 2

— 2

— 1

— 1

— 1

— 1

— 3

[Translation]

**Board for Post Office Savings Banks**

\*100. SHRI MADAN PANDEY:  
SHRI ANANTA PRASAD  
SETHI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have appointed a board for post office savings banks;

(b) if so, its composition and functioning;

(c) whether the customers and the Department are likely to get any special benefit with the appointment of this board; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) to (d). A statement is given below.

**STATEMENT**

In order to advise the Government on matters relating to customers' service and other operational problems of Post Office

Savings Banks (POSBs), constitution of an Advisory Board or POSB was ordered vide Memo No. 93-1/89-SB, dated 15th June, 1989. The Post Office Savings Banks are being operated through 1,44,084 Post Offices as an agency function on behalf of the Ministry of Finance, Government of India. The vast network of the POSBs serve a clientele of 7.39 crore account holders under several savings schemes, besides nearly 3.90 crores investors in National Savings Certificates, Indira Vikas Patras and Kissan Vikas Patras. However, the Department did not have any forum for interacting with the investing public either at the lowest level of the post office or at the national level of the Postal Services Board. Orders have been issued for constitution of Advisory Committees at the level of Divisional Superintendents of Post Offices wherein POSBs users will be associated. With the constitution of the Advisory Board, POSBs users new will have the opportunities of interacting with the decision making levels in the Government. Members of the Parliament and representatives of the Banking institutions wherein they may be able to represent the customers' point of view and demand better service and facilities. The inadequacies of the infrastructure of the POSBs and other improvements needed for generating better customers satisfaction can be discussed at this forum and recommendations made for implementation by the Government.

The Department of Posts as an agency Department all have the advantage of assessing the requirements of the POSB users and the expertise of the Banking institutions. The recommendations of this Advisory Board will be passed on to the Ministry of Finance for bringing about modifications and amendments in the schemes in operation. The recommendations of this Advisory Board may also be helpful in working out new schemes for introduction by the Ministry of Finance.

The participation of the representatives of the State Governments on this Advisory Board would ensure fuller cooperation in the mobilisation efforts by findings solutions to the operational bottlenecks. It is anticipated that the Government would drive tremendous benefits by having the Advisory Board.

The composition and functions of the Advisory Board are detailed in the Annexure below.

### ANNEXURE

#### *Composition and functions of Post Office savings Bank Advisory Board*

Chairman—Minister of State for Communications

Vice Chairman—Secretary (Posts)

Co-Vice Chairman—Member (Development), Postal Services Board

- |       |  |
|-------|--|
| 1—4   | Two Members of Parliament from Lok Sabha and two Members of Parliament from Rajya Sabha.                 |
| 5     | Secretary, Department of Banking or his nominee  |
| 6     | Chairman, Unit Trust of India or his nominee   |
| 7     | Nominee of the Governor of Reserve Bank of India   |
| 8—9   | Two Nominees of two state Governments  |
| 10—11 | Two nominees of Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Associated Chamber of Commerce |

- 12—14 Three members of Posts Office Savings Bank users from States
- 15 National Savings Commissioner.
16. Leader, staff Side, Joint Consultative Machinery (Department)
17. Member (Secretary)—Deputy Director General (Savings Bank Operations)

The Chairman of the Advisory Board of Post Office Saving Bank will have the power to co-opt any other expert from special fields as found necessary. The Board will be re-constituted after two years. The tenure of the non-official members will be for 2 years after which they can be either re-nominated or fresh nominations made in their place.

The functioning of the Committee will be to advise the Government on matters pertaining to Post Office Savings Bank operations, Customer Service and such other matters as may be referred to the Board from time to time. Its recommendation will be advisory in character and the Board will meet ordinarily once in 6 months at New Delhi, but if necessary, meeting can be arranged at any other place in India with specific approval of the Chairman.

[*English*]

**President's Assent to West Bengal Land Reforms (Third Amendment) Bill, 1986**

805. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA:  
SHRI MATILAL HANSDA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be

pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had received the West Bengal Land Reforms (Third Amendment) Bill, 1986;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) when the Bill is likely to receive the assent of the President?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH): (a) to (c). The West Bengal Land Reforms (Third Amendment) Bill, 1986 was received on 29.12.86 and assented to by the President on 30. 4.89.

[*Translation*]

**Opening of Post Offices in Bihar**

806. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the district-wise number of post-offices proposed to be opened in Bihar during the year 1989-90;

(b) the number of applications pending for opening of new post-offices in Nalanda district, Bihar and the locations thereof; and

(c) the time by which the decision is likely to be taken on pending applications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) The information is given below in the Statement.

(b) and (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.