

Opening of Post Offices, Sub-Post Offices and Branch Post Offices in Orissa

5672. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names and number of sub-post offices which are likely to be up-graded in the State of Orissa during the current year ; and

(b) the names and number of new post offices, sub-post offices and branch post offices to be opened in the State of Orissa during the Seventh Five Year Plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) There are no proposals at present for upgrading of sub-post offices in Orissa during the current year.

(b) The number of new post offices to be opened in each Postal Circle is determined on a year to year basis having regard to the funds available under each Annual Plan. However, no new post offices were sanctioned in Orissa or other Circles during 1985-86 on account of the ban on creation of posts and also taking into account the extensive rural coverage already achieved, by means of regular post offices and by other means such as rural mobile post offices and daily delivery scheme. There are also no proposals at present for opening of new post offices in Orissa or other Circles during 1986-87.

There are, at present, 7,535 post offices in Orissa Circle which works to an average of one post office to cover 20.66 sq. kms, or 3499 people. The corresponding figures for the country as a whole are 21.94 sq. kms. and a population of 4748. It will be seen that the postal development of Orissa is ahead of the average for the country as a whole.

Lok Adalat for Cases of Women in Delhi

5673. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Lok Adalat for cases of women was held in the capital recently ;

(b) if so, the response of the litigents and how many cases could be settled ; and

(c) whether keeping in view the fact that the cause of women needs greater attention in the country, Government propose to hold such Lok Adalats in all the States at regular intervals so that aggrieved women get justice quickly ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : According to the information furnished by the Committee for Implementing Legal Aid Schemes :—

(a) A Lok Adalat for cases Concerning women was held at Delhi on 9.3.1986 under the auspices of the Department of Women Welfare and in collaboration with the Delhi Legal Aid and Advice Board.

(b) There has been a tremendous response from the litigants. 50 matrimonial disputes were settled.

(c) Lok Adalats are not being held by the Government. The Committee for Implementing Legal Aid Schemes and the State Legal Aid and Advice Boards who are responsible for organising the Lok Adalats are aware that the cause of women needs special attention and proper motivation is being supplied at State level.

Introduction of Modern Technology for Telephone Industry

5674. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :