

**Setting up of a Defence Project in Tamil Nadu**

\*407. SHRI P. R. KUMARMANGLAM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Defence Project is planned to be set up in the State of Tamil Nadu, especially in Salem District and if so, the details thereof ; and

(b) if not, the reasons why Tamil Nadu is not being given a share in the new units that are being set up by the Defence Ministry ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) Two projects, one for establishment of manufacturing facilities for T-72M1 tanks, and another for manufacture of engines both for tanks as well as infantry combat vehicles, are being set up at Avadi, Madras, Tamil Nadu. In addition a Heavy Alloy Penetrator project for manufacture of projectiles for tank ammunition is also being set up at the Ordnance Factory Complex at Tiruchirappalli. However, no defence project is planned to be set up at Salem district at present

(b) Does not arise.

**Licensed Post Offices in Urban and Semi-Urban Areas**

\*408. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :  
SHRI ANIL BASU :  
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is fact that Government have approved a scheme for opening licensed post offices in urban and semi-urban areas ;

(b) whether this amounts to policy change ;

(c) if so, at what level the decision was taken ; and

(d) if not, the reasons for shifting from the present set up of post offices ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir. A scheme of appointing licensed postal agents to undertake limited postal

work of sale of postal stamps and stationery, booking of registered letters and acceptance of letters tendered at their premises and clearance of letter boxes planted at their premises has been approved on an experimental basis.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The decision has been taken at the level of the Members of the Postal Board with the approval of Minister of State (Communications).

(d) The reasons are to enable basic postal facilities being made more widely available for public convenience.

**Installation of Computers in Industry Ministry**

\*409. SHRI A.J.V.B. MAHESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to take steps to ensure the implementation of Government's policy to install computers in his Ministry to expedite the clearance of industrial licences etc. ; and

(b) if not, the details of factors that are holding up the installation of computers ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) and (b) The Minister of Industry and Company Affairs have, with the assistance of National Informatics Centre (NIC), installed a stand alone computer system—HP 21-MX as well as eight interactive terminals to CYBER-170/730 to establish an Industrial Data Bank (IDB) in the Ministry.

**[Translation]****Construction of Automatic Telephone Exchange Building at Biharsharif in Bihar**

4048. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that construction work of the automatic exchange building at the head office Biharsharif in District Nalanda in Bihar is in progress .