

SOME HON. MEMBERS: No, no!

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: I know this reaction. I am bound to debunk this reaction, which is not based on statistics. (*Interruptions*).

In a few areas, it may fail. but there is no use raising noise like this about it. (*Interruptions*). This sort of total condemnation will not be contributory to keeping up the morale of the staff. Even if they try their utmost, if this is the condemnation coming, it will not be good. I am on strong ground, based on figures. (*Interruptions*). It is no use merely expressing an opinion or a feeling. If there are calls failing, the information may be passed on to me. I do not say that the calls are coming just on the tip of it. I do not say that every call is coming without fail. There will be calls which will be failing. If that information is passed on to me, we will make an analysis about it. This is all I have to say. *Interruptions* I am prepared to sit with anybody and analyse it. I agree that it can be improved, but this sort of total condemnation will not do. (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: The question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Employment Opportunities for Women

*615. **SHRI MANPHOOL SINGH CHAUDHARY:** Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Asian and Pacific Centre for Women and Development in a workshop organised recently in New Delhi had suggested for larger employment opportunities for women to help raise their economic status;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) what measures Government propose to take for the development of women in the society?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) The Asian and Pacific Centre for Women and Development (APCWD) under the ESCAP recently held at New Delhi, a Workshop of representatives from different countries in the Region in which various issues relating to the position of women in human settlements were discussed and certain views were expressed. It will be before the APCWD/ESCAP to address any communication based on the Report of the Workshop, to the countries of the Region, if necessary. No such communication has been received by Government of India so far.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Various programmes are already under implementation

Delivery of Dak in Remote Areas

*616. **SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the remote areas particularly where the Adivasis are living, days are fixed for the delivery of mail and especially when Sunday or other holiday intervenes, there is a long gap in resuming postal delivery services; and

(b) if so, will Government consider this problem and arrange that on holidays falling on Saturdays and Mondays, which lead to large accumulation of mail bags at various post offices and transit points, postal delivery services are resumed without delay?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI C. M. STEPHEN): (a) and (b). No, Sir. Except for about 1250 villages, all other villages in India are covered by the Daily Delivery Scheme. According to this