

implication the Minister in his answer has suggested that public sector is not viable in this respect and by implication he has suggested also that there is room for re-consideration of such units being there in the public sector undertakings. In the light of such observations by the hon Minister, may I know whether the Minister wants to compromise on the basic policy?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: It is not, for the simple reason that, as the hon. Member himself has stated, our policy is to see that the public sector must be improved, and must have commanding height. If there is mismanagement that mismanagement must be set right. This is what I said has to be done in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER: Next question—
Mr. Parashar. 20 Minutes are over.

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: Basic thing has been missed by the hon. Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: 20 minutes are over.
Next question.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: You missed it when you were there.

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: You please read my 20-page note. In that note I have recorded everything.
(Interruptions)

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Actually the whole collapse started when you were there.

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: Read my papers first. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Next question. Mr. Parashar.

Power to P and T Directorate/Heads of Postal circles for opening/Up-Grading Posts Offices

***232 PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the P&T Directorate or the Heads of Postal Circles have been given any powers for (i) opening (ii) upgrading the Post Office in (i) rural, (ii) urban areas, in relaxation of the existing norms or in special circumstances;

(b) if so, the nature of the powers given and the relaxation allowed indicating the number of cases per year for which this relaxation is allowed;

(c) whether this number is considered adequate or there is any need for greater discretion; and

(d) if so, the likely date by which greater relaxation would be allowed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL): (a) Heads of Circles have been given powers to open Post Offices or upgrade Extra-Department Post Offices to Departmental status in relaxation of standard norms.

(b) In rural areas, Post Offices may be opened in relaxation of any of the prescribed norms and in urban areas in relaxation of the distance norms in hilly, backward and tribal areas, Extra-Departmental Post Offices can be upgraded as Departmental offices in relaxation of any of the stipulated conditions.

The powers are exercised by Heads of Circles and are limited to 10 per cent of proposals sanctioned in each category every year.

(c) The existing provisions are considered to be adequate.

(d) Does not arise.

SHRI NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Sir, may I know from the hon. Minister, though the powers have been delegated to the Heads of circles in regard to 10 percent of cases for relaxation of norms for opening Post Offices, what about the powers of the Directorate. In how many cases this percentage in respect of relaxation of norms was applicable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): Sir, there is no such percentage fixed for the Directorate. Whatever percentage is fixed, the Head of the circle is considering.

SHRI NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: For this 10 per cent, the hon. Minister says that the Head of the Circle has the same powers as the Directorate. May I know from the hon. Minister on which date these powers were delegated in the first instance and how many cases have been sanctioned under this 10 per cent, this year?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: Sir, I have not said that the powers of the Directorate and the Heads of Circles are the same. I said that the powers of the Directorate were not fixed. In the case of Himachal Pradesh, I can give the particulars:

1980-81—Peokar
Samdoh

1981-82—Demul (Simla)

1982-83—Shalkhar (Simla)

These were the names of Branch Post Offices opened in Himachal Pradesh in relaxation of norms.

श्री राजेन्द्र प्रसाद यादव : अध्यक्ष जी, मंत्री महोदय ने (ए) पार्ट के जवाब में बताया है :

“Heads of Circles have been given powers to open Post Offices or up-grade Extra-Departmental Post Offices to Departmental status in relaxation of standard norms.”

मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि यह तो रिलेक्सेशन की बात आपने कही है। लेकिन जहाँ स्टैंडर्ड नॉर्म के मुताबिक पोस्ट आफिस होने चाहिये उस तरह के पोस्ट आफिस के लिये, जैसे बिहार में मैं भीतरी इलाके से आता हूँ, वहाँ हमारे डिवीजन में इन्होंने कहा साल में

4 पोस्ट आफिसेज खुल सकते हैं और उस नॉर्म के तहत इन्होंने 24 पोस्ट आफिसेज की मन्जूरी कर दी है और कहते हैं कि वित्त के अभाव में नहीं खोले जा सकते हैं। तो स्टैंडर्ड नॉर्म के मुताबिक भी वित्त के अभाव में नहीं खोले जा सकते हैं, जब कि दूसरी तरफ़ आपने अधिकारियों को पावर्स दे रहे हैं कि उसके अलावा भी पोस्ट आफिस खोल सकते हैं। तो यह दोनों बातें कंट्रैडिक्टरी हैं। क्या आप ऐश्वोर करोगे कि नौम्स के तहत कम से कम जो पोस्ट आफिस बनते हैं जिस इलाके में वह तो तुरन्त खोले जायें।

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: Post Offices are opened where the norms are satisfied. But, Sir, for that also, the Planning Commission has fixed the target. It is done according to the target fixed by the Planning Commission and according to the finances available with the Government.

SHRI R. P. YADAV: What are the powers available to those Circle Offices?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: Powers are used when the finances are available. Otherwise, it would not serve any purpose. It all depends upon the resources of the country.

SHRI R. P. YADAV: Then why should they give the Extra Powers to the Circle Offices if they are not in a position to use them?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : जहाँ जरूरी खोलने चाहिये ऐकॉर्डिंग टु नौम्स वहाँ तो पहले खुलने चाहिये। दूसरी जगह नहीं।

श्री योगेन्द्र मकवाना : जहाँ नौम्स परमिट करते हैं वहाँ तो पहले ही खोले जाते हैं।

It is according to the target fixed by the Planning Commission and the hon.

Member is interested in knowing what is the target fixed by the Planning Commission, I can give them.

SHRI R. P. YADAV: Sir, it is not a satisfactory answer. Sir, are you satisfied with this answer?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैं इसमें क्या कह सकता हूँ।

SHRI R. P. YADAV: According to the norms laid down by you, the post offices are not opened and you are giving extra powers to the officers to open post offices.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: Generally, wherever the norms are satisfied, post offices are opened. There can be hardly one or two cases where it might not have been possible due to lack of resources.

श्री राजनाथ सोनकर शास्त्री : मंत्री जी ने जवाब दिया है कि सरकिल अफिसों को निर्धारित मानदंडों में छूट देकर डाकघर खोलने अथवा विभागेतर डाकघर का दर्जा बढ़ाकर विभागीय डाकघर बनाने के लिये शक्तियां प्रदान कर दी गई हैं, और उन्होंने अपने जवाब में यह भी कहा है कि ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में निर्धारित मानदंडों में ढील देकर और शहरी क्षेत्रों में दूरी के मापदंड में ढील देकर पोस्ट आफिस खोलने के लिये निर्देश दिये जा चुके हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि पिछले वर्ष 1981-82 में ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में खासकर उत्तर प्रदेश में कितने डाकघर निर्धारित मानदंडों में ढील देकर खोले गये हैं?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: In 1980-81, the total number of post offices opened is 1889, in 1981-82 it is 1601, and we envisage to open nearly 1000 post offices in 1982-83.

श्रमिक विवादों का निपटान

* 233. श्री सत्येन्द्र नारायण सिंह : क्या श्रम और पुनर्जात मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या श्रमिक विवादों के शीघ्र निपटान की कोई नई योजना सरकार के विचाराधीन है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी पूरा ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ग) उसे कब तक कार्यान्वित किए जाने की संभावना है ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI DHARMAVIR): (a) to (c). The Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Act, 1982 provides for time limits for disposal of references under Section 10 of the Industrial Disputes Act and applications under Section 33(C) by Labour Courts and Tribunals. The question of bringing into force the Amendment Act is under consideration.

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAIN SINHA: Is it not a fact that the Labour Courts and Tribunals have not been disposing of the cases within the time limit. What special steps are proposed to be taken to expedite the disposal of these cases?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): It is true that the cases before the Industrial Tribunals and Labour Courts are taking a long time, and they are not being disposed of expeditiously. That is why the Industrial Disputes Act has been amended during the last session and in the amended Act it has been said that so far as the disputes before the Labour Courts and the Industrial Tribunals are concerned, Government