

Oil Wells under Production

*365. SHRI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE ALLURI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of oil wells under production as on the 30 June, 1982 and the quantity of oil produced during the last three years; and

(b) the number of new wells that are expected to be drilled in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) One thousand and ninety six oil wells were on production on June 30, 1982. The quantity of oil produced during the last three years (from 1979-80 to 1981-82) was 38.37 million tonnes.

(b) The total number of wells (both exploratory and development) planned to be drilled during 1982-83 is 213.

Opening and Upgradation of Branch Post Offices in Bihar

3799. SHRI BHOGEN德拉 JHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 9833 on 27th April, 1982 re. Opening and upgradation of branch post offices in Bihar and state :

(a) whether information with regard to the upgradation of Basfi, Baraha and Siwri Branch Post Offices and for opening of new branch post offices at Manoharpur (Umagon Block), Marukea (Khajouli Block) Ganguli (Benipatti Block), have since been collected and decisions taken thereof ;

(b) if so, the details thereabout ;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay ; and

(d) whether it is proposed to construct its own building for Divisional HQs., at Madhubani and sub-post office at Benipatti ; if so, details thereabout ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Details are as follows :

(i) Basfi extra departmental sub post office does not justify upgradation to the status of departmental sub post office as the existing workload of that office is only 3 hours and 29 minutes as against a minimum of 5 hours per day as prescribed by the Department.

(ii) Baraha and Simiri extra departmental branch post offices are not eligible to be upgraded to the level of even extra departmental sub post offices as their existing workload is 2 hours 58 minutes and 2 hours 22 minutes respectively as against a minimum of 4 hours per day required as per departmental norms. The question of upgrading them either as extra departmental sub offices or as departmental sub offices does not arise for the present.

(2) According to the norms prescribed by the Department in rural areas a village should have a minimum of 2000 population to be eligible for a branch post office. This condition can be relaxed only in case of Gram Panchayat villages. Further, no new post office is opened in a rural area within a distance