

(b) No. Sir. But where an interested party pays each year as non-returnable contribution (NRC), the recurring expenditure on account of a Post Office, less its income, Government will open and maintain the Post Office.

(c) Post Offices are opened progressively under the annual plan subject to fulfilment of norms and availability of resources. 1568 Post Offices have been sanctioned during the first three years of the Eighth Five Year plan.

Filling up of the post of Dy. Chairman and Secretary in Paradip Port

1128. SHRI SAN AT AN BISI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the posts of Dy. Chairman and Secretary in Paradip Port (Orissa) are lying vacant for the last several years as a result of which there is administrative breakdown and financial mismanagement;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefore; and

(c) what steps Government propose to fill up the vacant posts to gear up the administration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c) The post of Dy. Chairman in Paradip Port Trust is vacant w.e.f. 30.11.1991. The matter for filling up the post is being processed in consultation with Deptt. of Personnel & Training. As regards the post of Secretary of the Port, the incumbent is under suspension. So long as he is under suspension, the question of filling up the

Post-Quake Help Sought by Russia

1129. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Russia had made an appeal to India to rush men and materials to the quake affected areas within that country;

(b) if so, the extent of help rendered by India to that country; and

(c) the total amount of aid given by India to that country in this hour of trial?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) No Sir. No official appeal was made by Russia to India for assistance after the earthquake.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Productivity of Hooghly Dock Engineers Limited

1130. SHRI MD. SALIM: SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether improvement of infrastructure and technological upgradation is required to be taken for achieving higher productivity in Hooghly Dock and Port Engineers Limited (HDPEL) as per Ministry's annual report of 1994-95;

(b) if so, whether the same is possible without any investment;

(c) whether any committee has been constituted by Government to suggest measures for revival of HDPEL with 'no' investment from Government;

(d) whether there is any precedent where a sick industry has been made viable with 'no' investment; and

(e) the purpose of forming a committee with such unachievable guidelines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) A committee has been constituted to evaluate the viability of the short term plan submitted by Hooghly Dock and Port Engineers Ltd. (HDPEL). The purpose of forming the above committee is to suggest revival measures with minimum investment and to explore avenues of reviving HDPEL without or least additional financial burden or heavy investment.

Rehabilitation Programme of Displaced Persons from Bangladesh

1131. SHRI JOYANTA ROY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that rehabilitation of displaced persons from East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) has not yet been fully completed;

(b) whether Government examined reports of review, committee set up by the Central Government under the Chairmanship of N.C. Chatterjee, of the working group of 1976, package programme of West Bengal Government of 1993; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government for completion of the rehabilitation programme in West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) The rehabilitation of displaced persons who migrated from former East Pakistan has been completed. Only a few residuary problems remain.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) The major rehabilitation programme in West Bengal is the regularisation of Squatters' colonies, the funds for which are being released by the Government of India. The scheme is being implemented by the Government of West Bengal. Bulk of the work under this programme is complete except for some residuary work.

Manufacture of ice cream by multinational companies

1132. SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ice cream is reserved for small sector units in which MNCs cannot enter;

(b) whether MNCs are busy capturing the ice cream market and they have already gobbled up many Indian ice cream units; and

(c) whether the Ministry of Food Processing Industries has permitting them to launch "frozen desserts"?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Manufacture of ice-cream is reserved for small scale sector.

(b) Marketing of products reserved for manufacture in small scale sector by the large companies with majority foreign equity holding are permitted.

(c) 'Frozen Desserts' have different composition than that of Ice-Cream.

News-item Regarding Complaints of Dead Telephones

1133. SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item published in 'Helpline of Statesman' of the 2nd July, 1995 under the headline