

riage Permits are issued by the State Transport Authorities of the respective State Governments/UT Administrations. The suitability of different types or makes of vehicles for particular usages is determined by the State Transport Authorities, which are quasi-judicial bodies.

Delhi Administration have intimated that while the Maruti Cars are not being registered as taxi cabs in Delhi, Maruti Vans have been approved by State Transport Authority, Delhi for operation as DLY Tourist Taxi with effect from 1.4.87.

Partial implementation of the judgement of Allahabad High Court regarding Telecom Engineering services

3605. SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased, to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the seniority of a large number of TES Group 'B' officers of Department of Telecommunications has been adversely affected due to partial implementation of the judgement of Hon'ble Allahabad High Court (Lucknow Bench) in Writ Petition No. 2738 of 1981 and 3652 of 1981 by Shri P. N. Lal and Shri Brij Mohan duly upheld by Supreme Court of India vide SLP (Civil) No. 3384-86 dated 8th April, 1986;

(b) whether the Department of Telecommunications has received representations from the affected officers for the revision of their seniority;

(c) if so, what action the Department of Telecommunications proposes to take in the matter to undo the injustice done to the aggrieved officers;

(d) whether it proposes to revise the entire seniority list of T.E.S. Group 'B' officers in the light of the aforesaid judgement; and

(e) by what time the Deptt. of Telecommunications is likely to decide these cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The Judgement of the Allahabad High Court and the Supreme Court has since been fully implemented.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The judgements relate to two individual officers only.

(e) Does not arise in view of answer to (d) above.

Typists in Railways

3606. SHRI M. RAJAGOPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that the category of typists in Railways was given upgradation with effect from 1-8-88, when the other clerical staff in Establishment and other Establishment branches were upgraded with effect from 1st October, 1980;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the upgradation given in respect of all clerical posts with effect from 1st January, 1984 has not been given to typists;

(c) if so, what are the reasons that typists have been deprived of upgradation in their due turn alongwith other clerks; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to upgrade the posts of typists at par with all the other clerical posts included in the upgradation scheme effective from 1st January, 1984?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir. Typists were given upgradation on proforma basis with effect from 1-8-1982 and current payments from 1-8-1983 while the Ministerial Staff (Clerical Cadre) were given up-gradation with effect from 1-10-1985.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) In view of the distinct difference in the nature of duties and responsibilities, typists were not given similar percentage as for ministerial staff (Clerical Cadre) with effect from 1-1-1984.

Norms for opening Post Offices in rural areas

3607. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have set out certain norms for opening of Post Offices in rural areas; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof indicating the reasons for adopting such norms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are furnished in the Statement enclosed. (See below) The norms have been introduced: —

(i) To ensure a balanced development of rural postal facilities; and

(ii) to define the level of subsidy admissible separately for normal areas and for hilly/tribal/backward areas.

Statement

Norms for opening of Post Offices in rural areas population:

A group of villages will be identified for purpose of opening of new Post offices. Within this group, a suitable village will be selected for locating the post office based on one or more of the following criteria:

(i) Headquarter of a gram pan-chayat;

(ii) Village with the largest population.

(iii) Location on an existing mail line;

(iv) Central location with reference to the group of villages.

(v) Village which has a concentration of economic activity/other social facilities (weekly market, transport junction railhead, primary health centre, educational institutions and others).

The aggregate population of the group of villages should be not less than 5,000 in normal rural areas and not less than 2,500 in hilly, backward and Mbal areas; provided further that in normal rural areas no new post office may be opened unless the total population served by the parent Post office is in excess of 10,000. As a result of a new post office being opened, the parent post office should still have a total population of not less than 5,000 in normal rural areas and 2,500 in hilly backward and tribal areas.

Distance :

No new Post Office may be opened in rural areas within the distance of 3 Kms from an existing post office, in all new proposed the distance should be got certified by the appropriate authorities of PWD/Highways/ Zilla Parishads/district boards where the proposed post office is connected by a regular road and where it is not, by the revenue authorities. No relaxation of the distance condition is permissible under any circumstances.

Permissible limits of loss;

The permissible limit of loss is now fixed at Rs. 2400 per annum in normal rural areas and 4,800 per annum in hilly, backward and tribal areas. It is further provided that the anticipated income of a proposed post office should not be less than 50 per cent of its anticipated cost in normal rural areas, and 25 per cent of its an-