

Deficit and Losses in postal budget

3031. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA:
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS
be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the deficit and losses on the Postal Budget during the last three years and their projections for 1986-87 and 1987-88;

(b) what factors have been responsible therefor giving details of each losing service with costs and tariff loss, increased staff costs in each category etc.;

(c) whether Government propose to raise the tariff, if so, the amount proposed to be collected and how much deficit is still likely to remain for 1986-87 and 1987-88; and

(d) whether the Department propose to review and reduce the establishment and staff to control its expenditure, if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a)
The deficit in the Postal Budget during
the last three years has been as under:—

1983-84	—	Rs. 82.30 crores.
1984-85	—	Rs. 136.09 crores.
1985-86	—	Rs. 163.55 crores.

The deficit for the year 1986-87, according to the Budget estimates, is likely to be Re. 223.60 crores. The estimated deficit for the year 1987-88 will be known at the time of the Budget for the year 1987-88.

(b) 83 per cent of the expenditure of the Department of Posts is on staff & establishment. There has been a gradual increase in this cost due to grant of Dearness Allowance, Productivity Linked Bonus and revision of the pay scales on the recommendations of the 4th Pay Commission. There has also been increases in the transportation charges by the Railways and the Airlines. A statement giving details of each losing service with costs and tariff loss is enclosed (See below).

(c) Enhanced rates of some of the postal items have been announced on the floor of the House on 27-11-86. This is expected to yield an additional revenue of Rs. 79 crores in full year. A Bill to increase the rate of some other items included in the first schedule of the Indian Post Office Act, 1898 is being introduced in the Parliament shortly.

(d) Review of the establishment to reduce its cost is a continuing activity of the Department. In the recent past a number of steps have been taken to streamline the procedures and rationalise work to achieve these objectives.

Statement

	Cost (Average) (in paise)	Tariff (Average) In Paise)	Loss per Article (in Paise)	Total loss (Rs. in Crores)
1	2	3	4	5
Post Cards	65.17	18.10	47.07	46.92
Letter Cards	70.63	35.00	35.63	34.70
<i>Regd Newspapers :</i>				
1. Single	77.81	10.28	67.53	16.30
2. Double	95.25	26.73	68.52	02.48
<i>Book Post :</i>				
1. Book Patterns & Sample Pkts.	82.54	44.08	38.45	11.91
2. Printed Books	99.84	29.63	70.21	03.69
3. Other periodicals	108.75	50.11	58.64	1.50

1	2	3	4	5
Parcels	664.05	573.38	90.67	50.89
Registration	466.77	275.00	191.77	55.06
Recorded Delivery	230.15	800.00	130.15	01.15
Insurance	569.70 +58.18 }	526.50	101.38	01.00
Value Payable	319.69	127.04	192.65	02.31
Acknowledgement	50.18	9.00	28.10	01.95
Money Orders	523.85 +58.18 }	373.94	208.09	27.82
Tel. M. Orders	582.53	284.62	297.91	00.83
I.P. Os.	292.63	41.17	251.46	50.73

Bonus in the posts and telecommunications departments

3032. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what have been the Postal and Telecom profits and losses during the last three years and the bonus declared during the period;

(b) the reasons for declaring different rates of bonus for Postal and Telecom Departments;

(c) whether common categories like Secretariat, Finance and Civil Wing are likely to get same bonus for identical work; and

(d) whether the Ministry has received complaints against the lower bonus to Postal employees who claim increased productivity, if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a)

Loss (in crores of Rs.)

No. of days for which bonus was declared

POSTAL

1985-86 : 163.85	27
1984-85 : 136.09	29
1983-84 : 82.30	25

Profit

TELECOM

(in crores)	
1985-86 : 276 (Provisional)	40
1984-85 : 372	29
1983-84 : 366	25