

Opening of New Post Office

207. SHRI NEPALDEV BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the number of Post Offices proposed to be opened in the country during the Seventh Five-Year Plan period, year-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): The Seventh Plan (1985—90) for the Postal Department has not been finalised. Annual plans are drawn for each year of the Plan and based on each year's financial allocation, different postal circles are allotted targets annually.

208. [Transferred to the 26th March, 1985].

Demand for new telephone connection in Metropolitan Cities

209. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present demand for new telephone connections in the cities of Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Madras;

(b) how much of the said demand is proposed to be met by Government with details thereof; and

(c) by when the demand for new telephone connections is proposed to be met by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) The present demand for new telephone connection as on 1st February, 1985, is as under:—

Metro City	Waiting list on 1-2-1985
Bombay	1,60,582
Calcutta	29,736
Delhi	1,34,129
Madras	37,686

(b) During Feb., 1985 to March, 1986, it is proposed to meet the demand to the following extent:—

1. Bombay	50,000
2. Calcutta	10,000
3. Delhi	35,000
4. Madras	12,000

(c) Every effort is being made to meet the above demand as early as possible subject to the availability of resources.

Applications for LPG connections in Kerala

210. SHRI K. MOHANAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state:

(a) how many applications for LPG connections from Kerala are pending upto 31st December, 1984;

(b) whether it is a fact that quite a large number of applications are pending for more than a year;

(c) if so, by when the backlog is proposed to be cleared; and

(d) what is the minimum time taken to replace the gas cylinder of a consumer in Kerala at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): (a) There were approximately 33,840 persons on the waiting lists with various distributors of oil companies in Kerala for LPG connections as on 31st December, 1984.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Refill supplies of LPG in the Southern Region including Kerala were disrupted following closure of the Cochin Refinery after the fire accident in March, 1984. With the Refinery resuming production there is considerable improvement in the position and refills are now supplied within a week.