

of Soda Ash Light from Rs. 2020 per MT to Rs. 2045 per M.T. (basis ex-works prices) w.e.f. 15th January, 1984. They have attributed the increase in the price to the increase in the cost of packing materials.

As per available information, the current ex-works prices of Soda Ash Light of the indigenous manufacturers are in the range of Rs. 2461.77 to Rs. 2702.50 per M.T. (inclusive of Excise Duty and Central Sales Tax).

Parallel Postal service operating in big cities

153. SHRI SHAMIM AHMED SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that an organisation known as 'Bagaria' is operating parallel postal service in big cities like Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, etc;

(b) whether it is also a fact that thousands of letters are collected/delivered from one city to another by this organisation every day normally at the rate of Re. 1/- per letter; and

(c) if so, what action Government have so far taken to apprehend the persons connected with the said organisation which is causing a huge loss of revenue to the Government?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL): (a.) to (c) 'The Government is not aware of any organisation known as "Bagaria" operating a parallel postal service anywhere in the country.

154. [Transferred to the 9th March, 1984.]

TV Centre for Gauhati

155. SHRI ROBIN KAKATI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present position in regard to the construction of a T.V. centre at Gauhati in Assam;

(b) whether the construction work of this T.V. centre is going on according to the schedule and if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when the work of the T.V. centre is likely to be completed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The site has been taken over and building work has been awarded. The excavation work for the foundation of the 150 MT RCC Tower has been completed.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The TV Transmitter is expected to be brought on full power during 1984-85. The studio is expected to be commissioned by 1985-86.

Assessment of voters' identity cards Scheme

156. SHRI ROBIN KAKATI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Election Commission had sent a team of its officials headed by the Deputy Chief Election Commissioner to the North Eastern States to assess the result of voters' identity cards scheme which was introduced in some States of North Eastern region during the last General Elections; and

(b) whether the team has submitted its report and if so, what are the main features thereof, and if not, by when the team is expected to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGANNATH KAUSHAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The team has submitted its Report to the Election Commission. The Election Commission has stated that the Report submitted by the team is being studied and that the Commis-