

Commemorative stamps on Indian Freedom struggle

11. SHRI AMARPROSAD CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to commemorate the various aspects of Indian Freedom struggle in the shape of issuing Postal stamps using the great, significant and glorious episodes like "Jalianwala Bagh holocaust", "Chattogram Sasastra Abhyuthwan" "Hijli Prison Firing on captive Freedom Fighters, "Azad Hind Revolutionary Movement" etc.; and

(b) if so, what are the actual outlines of the proposals and the likely date of their implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) It has been decided to issue a series of stamps depicting the landmarks in India's struggle for freedom. Details of the themes of the stamps and the time frame are yet to be finalised.

Issue of Commemorative stamps

12. SHRI AMARPROSAD CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any objections against issuance of commemorative postal stamps in the names of Shri Deshapriya Jatindra Mohan Sengupta and Shrimati Neelie Sengupta whose glorious contribution to the Indian Freedom struggle are no less important than many who have already been shown such honour; and

(b) whether Government propose to initiate steps for releasing First Day Postal Covers and issuing commemorative stamps as a mark of respect to these renowned political personalities of India of the by-gone days?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) So far, formal proposals for issuing commemorative stamps in honour of Shri Deshapriya Jatindra Mohan Sengupta and Smt. Neelie Sengupta have not been received from any quarter. Therefore, the question of any objection against issuance does not arise.

(b) At present the Government have no plan to issue commemorative stamps for these personalities.

Village Post Office in Andhra Pradesh

13. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of villages, district-wise, which have made representation for the opening of village Post Offices in Andhra Pradesh since 1980 and the action taken by Government in this regard; and

(b) the number of villages in Andhra Pradesh which have no village Post Offices and the time by when Government propose to provide Post Offices in those villages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) The information is being obtained and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Theft at Lodi Road, Head Post Office, New Delhi

14. SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2314 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 22nd March, 1982 and state whether the culprits involved in the theft at the Lodi Road Head Post Office have since been apprehended and what is the outcome of the investigation into the robbery?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAK-WANA): As intimated by Delhi Police, no one has yet been apprehended and the matter is still under their investigation.

Expenditure of Public Sector units on Display Advertisements

15. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR ADIVAREKAR; Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is aware of the general direction of Government to reduce expenditure of public sector units on display advertisements;

(b) whether he proposes to direct the undertakings under the administrative control of his Ministry like N.H.P.C. and N.T.P.C. to refrain from announcing personnel recruitment programmes in very large display advertisements and instead to use "Employment News" and classified columns of dailies; and

(c) what steps he has taken to stop collusion, if any, between private sector advertisement agencies and public sector officers in charge of advertisements? THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Instructions already exist that the public sector units should release advertisements through the DAVP and not through private agencies. However, large display advertisements are sometimes necessary to attract suitable talent for the undertakings in keeping with the job requirements of the projects.

Advertisement Cost of N.T.P.C.

16. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR ADIVAREKAR; Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) how many advertisements inviting "International Competitive Bids" have been issued by National Thermal Power Corporation from its inception to February 28, 1982 and during the last three years for publication in Indian and foreign daily newspapers and Indian and foreign general and specialized periodicals;

(b) whether he will lay a statement giving detailed breakup of various publications, space consumed therein and payments made to the media direct and through advertising agencies etc; and

(c) whether there is any scope of reducing such advertisement cost by reducing the number of insertions in the general and expensive dailies and using only specialized publications like 'Economic Times' and 'Vidyut Bharati' etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) 117 advertisements inviting "International Competitive Bids" have been issued by NTPC since its inception till 28th February, 1982. Of these, 86 bids have been issued during the last three years i.e., from 1-4-79 to 22-4-82.

(b) The information is being compiled.

(c) It is not considered desirable to restrict the issue of such advertisements as these are international competitive bids relating to supply of costly equipment where maximum participation and competition by prospective tenders is the objective.