

coarse grains with all the public agencies as on 1st January, 1981 were as under:

	(Figures in million Tonnes)
Rice (including paddy in terms of rice.)	6.76
Wheat	4.99
Coarse grains	0.09
TOTAL FOODGRAINS :	11.84*

(b) The total quantities of wheat supplied by Food Corporation of India from Central pool during 1979 and 1980 under three separate heads are as given below:

	(Figures in million Tonnes)	
	1979	1980*
	Jan-Dec.	Jan-Dec.
(i) Fair price shops	2.92	3.95
(ii) Roller flour Mills	3.07	3.64
(iii) Food for work programme	1.20	1.05
	7.19	8.64

* Provisional, subject to revision.

Deterioration in Post and Telegraph Service

170. SHRI NAGESHWAR PRASAD SHAHI:

SHRI LADLI MOHAN NIGAM:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the postal and telegraphic services in the country continues to be deteriorating, resulting in abnormal delays in the delivery of parcels and telegrams;

(b) if so, the reasons identified by Government for continuous deterioration in the postal and telegraphic services in the country; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to improve the situation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL): (a) (i) Postal services are not deteriorating in the country. There is usually no delay in delivery of parcels except in very small percentage of cases for reasons beyond the control of the P & T Department such as floods and disturbances.

(ii) Telegraph Services: Yes, Sir.

(c) Telegraph service:

The main reasons for deterioration in the telegraph service have been identified as:—

(i) Shortages and absenteeism of operative staff;

(ii) Transit operations involved in the path of a telegram; and

(iii) Power failures in telegraph Offices.

(c) The remedial steps being taken to improve the situation are:—

(i) deployment of a short-duty operative staff;

(ii) creation of reserve pool of operative staff;

(iii) planning expansion of genter network to reduce the transit;

(iv) provision of standby generators in Central and Departmental Telegraph offices.

Credit from International Financial Agencies for Irrigation Projects

171. SHRI NAGESHWAR PRASAD SHAHI:

SHRI ABDUL REHMAN SHEIKH:

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are likely to receive Rs. 300 crore of credit from the International