

Opening of Post Offices in Mehrauli-Badarpur Road Area and Saket Colony

*215. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

SHRI PRASENJIT BARMAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to open a Post Office in Mehrauli-Badarpur Road and another in D.D.A. Saket Colony of New Delhi;

(b) whether these post offices have not yet been opened due to nonavailability of any suitable accommodation for the purpose; and

(c) by when the post office_a will be opened in the locality?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI C. M. STEPHEN): (a) There is no proposal to open a post office at Mehrauli-Badarpur Road Colony at present. The proposal in this regard was examined earlier and dropped for want of justification. However, the Department has accepted in principle the need for opening a post office at DDA Saket Colony.

(b) The post office at Saket Colony has not been opened due to non-availability of suitable accommodation.

(c) Efforts are being made for obtaining accommodation from DDA for opening a post office at Saket Colony at the earliest. Opening of a post office at Mehrauli-Badarpur will depend on its justification in future.

Setting: up of a Statutory Agricultural Commodities Prices Commission

*216. SHRI G. R. MHAISEKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up a statutory Agricultural Commodities Prices Commission; and

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Agricultural Prices Commission has been set up under a Resolution of the Government. Government does not find any compelling reasons for converting it into a statutory commission.

Constitution of Coconut Board

*217. SHRI PATTIAM RAJAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have constituted the Coconut Board;

(b) if not, what are the reasons for the delay in constituting such a board; and

(c) whether any cess on copra has been collected and if so, what is the total amount collected so far?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) Government have not yet constituted the Coconut Board. The following are the main reasons for delay in constituting the Board: —

(i) The Coconut Development Board Act envisages representation of State Governments Union Territories on the Board. Hence it was necessary to consult the State Governments UTs who took time to forward their recommendations for nomination to the Board.

(ii) For regulating the functioning of the Coconut Board, the Act envisages framing of rules to deal with several procedural, administrative and financial aspects. A certain amount of time was taken in the framing of these rules and their examination in the Ministry of Law.

(c) An estimated amount of Rs. 76.39 lakhs has been collected as cess till May, 1980 under the Copra Cess Act, 1979 which came into effect on 1st

Previously Starred Question 97, transferred from the 29th July, 1980.