

Government, on pesticides, for Protection of fruit industry in Jammu and Kashmir from Scab and other diseases, has been stopped; and

(b) whether the Central Government propose to reconsider the decision and revive the subsidy to save the fruit industry in Jammu and Kashmir?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) The Central Government gives subsidy to the extent of 25 per cent of the cost of pesticides to the State Governments on the condition that atleast matching subsidy of 25 per cent is provided by the State Governments and the farmers bear the rest of the cost. This subsidy has not been stopped.

(b) In view of (a) above, the question of revival does not arise, the subsidy is very much there.

Opening of Sub-post offices in Jammu and Kashmir State

546. SHRI SHARIEF - UD - DIN SHARIQ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state what are the names of the localities where new Sub-Post Offices, branch Post Offices and telephone exchanges are proposed to be opened in Jammu and Kashmir during year 1980-81?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI C. M. STEPHEN): The names of the localities where new Sub-Post Offices are proposed to be opened in Jammu and Kashmir during the year 1980-81 are as follows:

Sankoo (Leh); Vilgam, Karalapura (Kupwara); Doabgah, Sangrama (Baramulla); Dachan (Doda); Lai Bazar (Srinagar); Akingam, Noor-pora, Mibroo (Anantnag); Gangiyal Halqa (Jammu); Chingan, Koderanka (Rajouri); Narain (Poonch). Quil (Pulwama); Sanjimore (Kathua); Mantalai Sub Post Office in district Udhampur has already been opened.

The names of the localities where telephone exchanges are proposed to be opened in Jammu & Kashmir during the year 1980-81 are as follows:—

Doru, Achhabal, Wail, Mattan, Wagora, Rehama, Tungmarg, Suran-kot, Garbi, Ramnagar, Chinani and Beerwah.

As regards branch post offices, only the number of offices to be opened during a year is determined in advance, Specific proposals are examined in the course of the year and sanctions issued in those cases which satisfy the prescribed norm and upto the number fixed for the year. About 20 branch post offices may be opened in Jammu & Kashmir State during 1980-81.

Indiscriminate felling of trees in Mussoorie

547. SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite Government's ban on felling of trees in Mussoorie hills promulgated about six years ago indiscriminate devastation of *deodar* trees continues unabated;

(b) whether it is also a fact that 835 *deodar* trees, many of them young, are to be cut in the Park Estate of Municipal Area of Mussoorie; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the large scale felling of trees in Mussoorie has disturbed the ecology of this hill station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN), (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha.

548. [Transferred to the 26th June, 1980].