

(c) No Schemes/Projects have been deferred as such. The expenditure on the existing Schemes/Projects has been so regulated as to keep it within the reduced allotments.

New Post Offices in Madhya Pradesh

282. SHRI M. B. SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to open some new post offices and public call offices in the Tribal areas of Madhya Pradesh in the near future; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR):

(a) and (b) (i) *Post Offices*.—Yes, Sir. It is proposed to open some new post offices in the tribal areas subject to their satisfying the existing standards. At present, there are 9 Head Post Offices, 241 Sub-Offices, 2 E.D. Sub-Offices and 1577 Branch Offices are functioning in the Tribal areas.

(ii) *Public Call Offices*.—Details of P. C. Os. proposed to be opened in tribal areas of Madhya Pradesh are as under:

1. Ambhar Chauki	. Dt. Durg.
2. Bhuabichriya	. Dt. Mandla.
3. Bhatgaon	. Dt. Raipur.
4. Bhilaiagarh	. Dt. Rajpur.
5. Birsa	. Dt. Bilaspur.
6. Baihar.	. Dt. Balaghat.
7. Dabhra	. Dt. Bilaspur.
8. Kiranpur	. Dt. Bilaghat.
9. Khamaria (Than Khamara)	. Dt. Durg
10. Kusmi.	. Dt. Sarguna.
11. Janakpur	. Dt. Sargauja.
12. Ratanpur	. Dt. Bilaspur.
13. Rustampur	. Dt. Khandwa.
14. Singorli	. Dt. Sidhi.

Per Capita Income in Bihar

283. SHRI GUNANAND THAKUR: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the per capita income in Bihar is the lowest in comparison to other States; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what measures Government pro-

pose to take to increase the per capita income of the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) According to the comparable data on various States, Bihar has the lowest per capita income.

(b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The difference in level of development between various States depends upon a variety of complex factors, e.g., physico-geographical, socio-economic, etc. The measures to accelerate the pace of development in Bihar in the Fourth Plan are:

(i) Allocation of higher Central assistance for the State Plan.

(ii) Sizeable investment in Central Industrial Projects.

(iii) Central subsidy amounting to 10 to 15% of the fixed capital investment in respect of units having a total fixed capital investment of Rs. 50 lakhs, in six selected industrially backward districts of the State.

(iv) Concessional finance by financial institutions in 9 industrially backward districts, implementation of special programmes for small farmers, sub-marginal farmers and agricultural labourers, dry farming etc. and the rural works programme which are to be financed by the Central Government. The State Government has also been advised to pay special attention to the accelerated development of backward regions through the adoption of Area Planning Approach, the creation of infrastructural facilities, the development of natural resources, potential etc.

The measures for accelerated development during the Fifth Plan period are:

(i) Launching of the National Programme of Minimum Needs in the Fifth Plan for enabling disadvantaged