

profit of Rs. 18,71,000 and Rs. 49,52,000 in the year 1967-68. Thus the entire previous loss has been covered as a result of the performance in recent years. But the difficulty why development is not taking place of the Farm is the non-availability of irrigation water. It was all planned on the assumption that the necessary irrigation water would be available. But this farm being at the tail end of the Bhakra Canal system, at no time water was made available according to the assumption. There are other aspects also which are being looked into. Recently a Farming Corporation has been constituted by the Government of India so that the Corporation would be attending to the problems of the Farm on commercial lines.

CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDING FOR GENERAL POST OFFICE AT MACHILIPATNAM

*428. SHRI K. P. MALLIKARJU-NUDU : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that land was acquired for the construction of a building for the General Post Office of Machilipatnam, Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, why the construction work has not commenced so far; and

(c) when the construction work is likely to be completed and what is its estimated cost?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (PROF. SHER SINGH) : (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The project has been sanctioned and pre-construction formalities are in progress.

(c) It is not possible to state at this stage as to when the construction work is likely to be completed. Usually it takes about two years from the commencement of work for the construction to be completed. The sanctioned cost of the work is Rs. 9,94,980.

SHRI K. P. MALLIKARJUNUDU : May I know, Madam, whether the Government is aware that the present post office is situated in a very, very old dilapidated building where there is neither adequate supply of light nor water ? Under these circumstances will

the Government see to it that this project comes into being as soon as possible ?

PROF. SHER SINGH : Madam, this work has been sanctioned as capital work for this year. The work will commence this year and completed soon.

*429. [The questioner (Shri Banka Behary Das) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 3089-3092 infra.]

*430. [The questioner (Shri Y. Adinarayana Reddy) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 3091-3093 infra.]

*431 [The questioner (Shri Thillai Villalan) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 3093 infra.]

*432. [The questioner (Shri S. A. Khaja Mohideen) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 3093 infra.]

*433. [The questioner (Shri B. D. Khobaragade) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 3094 infra.]

REPRESENTATION FROM THE STAFF OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

*434. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a strong resentment in his Ministry against certain promotions, postings, supersession and favouritism shown to certain individuals;

(b) whether any representations have been received in this connection; and

(c) if replies to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, what steps are being taken to redress the grievances of the staff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a) No, Madam.

(b) To some extent representations in service matters are a normal feature in a large organisation. Nothing unusual has, however, come to Government's notice which would justify the observation made in part (a) of the question.

(c) Does not arise.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Question Hour is over.