

DELIVERY OF EXPRESS LETTERS

29. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether express delivery covers are now being sorted out and put in a separate bag at the place of posting for their destination;

(b) whether express delivery service has improved since introduction of separate new covers for this purpose; and

(c) whether arrangements have been made to deliver express delivery letters on Sundays and other postal holidays?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI B. BHAGAVATI): (a) Express delivery articles are sorted out into separate bundles and enclosed in separate covers or bags by the last office or Section which makes up the cover or bag to the office of destination.

(b) The special envelopes were introduced only recently on 11th May, 1964 in four cities and it is too early to assess the result.

(c) On Sundays E.D. articles are delivered in select offices numbering about 800 all over the country. On other post office holidays E.D. articles are delivered from all delivery offices.

ROAD OVER-BRIDGE AT JHARSUGUDA RAILWAY STATION

30. SHRI SUNDAR MANI PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the progress so far made in regard to the construction of a road over-bridge at Jharsuguda Railway Station on the South Eastern Railway?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): The contract for the construction of the overbridge has been awarded and a work order issued to the contractor for starting

the work. The existing track has also been slowed to facilitate the construction of the bridge. The contractor is collecting the required materials and the actual construction will be started in the middle of June, 1964.

OUT-AGENCY SERVICE FOR SUNDARGARH

31. SHRI SUNDAR MANI PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a persistent demand from the public for the last five or six years for starting an Out-Agency service for Sundargarh, one of the District Headquarters in the State of Orissa; and

(b) if so, whether any decision has been taken in that behalf?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): (a) Yes.

(b) It has not been possible to open an Out Agency at Sundargarh due to:—

(i) meagre goods and parcels traffic; and

(ii) refusal of the Orissa State Transport Services, who hold a monopoly for passenger traffic over Jharsuguda-Sundargarh Section, to run the out-agency for passenger traffic.

D. B. K. RAILWAY PROJECT

32. SHRI SURJIT SINGH ATWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money so far spent on DBK Railway Project; and

(b) what return is expected from the said project?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.