

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). 9 halt stations.

(c) 6J per cent, of the sale proceeds of tickets.

CLOSING DOWN OF SAWMILL IN ANDAMANS

*394. SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chatham Sawmill in the Andamans is being closed, resulting in about 200 workers being thrown out of employment and if so, what are the reasons for the closure of the mill; and

(b) how far the closure of this mill is likely to affect the estimated annual production of timber from Andaman forests?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. P. JAIN):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

NEW TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS IN DELHI

*395. SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of applications for new telephone connections are lying undisposed of for several months in Delhi;

(b) whether it is a fact that many applicants want these connections under the "Own Your Telephone" scheme; and

(c) what are the reasons for not granting these connections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) The installation of additional equipment and cables for meeting the

phone demand in Delhi is in pro-and additional connections will be given progressively as these installations are completed.

OPERATION OF CLOSED SAVINGS BANK ACCOUNTS

*396. SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the post offices treat as closed those Savings Bank Accounts, which are not operated upon for three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that it takes several months in correspondence with post offices to seek permission to get such closed accounts again put into operation; and

(c) whether Government propose to remove this hardship?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR): (a) and (b). No, Sir. Only such post office Savings Bank accounts as show no transactions for six years are treated as 'dead accounts'. They are however allowed to be reopened immediately at the counter of a Head Post Office provided an application for the purpose, is made within 5 years of the date on which the account was treated as 'dead'. It is only when application is made after a lapse of five years that previous orders of the Audit Office are obtained, but such cases are rare.

(c) Does not arise.

PROPOSAL TO SHIFT OFFICES OF CENTRAL ARECANUT COMMITTEE

*397. SHRI A. V. KUNHAMBU: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to shift the offices of the Central Arecanut Committee from its present location at Kozhikode; and

(b) if so, the reasons for shifting it?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. P. JAIN): (a) A Sub-Committee has been set up by the Indian Central Arjekanut Committee to go into the question of the location of the permanent headquarters of the Committee at a suitable centre either in Kerala or Mysore State keeping in view the facilities that would be made available by the State Governments for the Efficient working of the Committee. The report of the Sub-Committee is awaited.

- (b) Does not arise.

TRANSFER OF OIL TECHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE AT ANANTHAPUR

*398. SHRI V. VENKATARAMANA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian central Unseeds Commmee had approached the Government of Andhra Pradesh with a proposal for the transfer of the Oil Technological Institute at Ananthapur;

(b) if the reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether the State Government has agreed to proposal; and if so, on what, terms; and

(c) whether the transfer has since been completed; if not, why not?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. P. JAIN): (a) No, Sir. The offer was first made by the erstwhile State Government of Andhra which was considered by the Committee and certain terms were offered to the State Government.

(b) and (c). A note giving the information is placed on the Table of the Sabha.

NOTICE

(b) and (c). An offer on the following terms was made by the Indian Central Oilseeds Committee to the State Government of Andhra for the transfer of the Oil Technological Institute at Ananthapur:—

- (i) The State Government should transfer the Institute as it is to the Indian Central Oilseeds Committee;
- (ii) the Committee will pay the cost of buildings and land *i.e.*, in all Rs. 3,25,000; and
- (iii) the equipment, etc., costing Rs. 4,27,000 should be a gift from the Andhra Government to the Committee.

The State Government of Andhra accepted the offer.

2. The transaction could not, however, be completed for the following reasons:—

It was considered desirable that the proposal to take over the Oil Technological Institute, Ananthapur, and develop it into a Central Oil Technological Research Institute under the aegis of the Indian Central Oilseeds Committee should be examined in detail. An *ad hoc* committee, consisting of Professor M. S. Thacker, Director General, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, Dr. M. S. Ran-dhawa, I.C.S., Vice-President, Indian Council of Agricultural Research and Dr. N. G. Chatterjee, Oil Technological Expert, was accordingly set up to visit the Harcourt Butler Technological Institute, Kanpur, the Central Research Laboratories, Hyderabad and the Oil Technological Institute, Ananthapur, and to make recommendations as to where technological research on vegetable oils should be carried out. The Sub-Committee recommended that technological research on vegetable oils should be carried out on a decentralised basis at the above mentioned three institutes, and at the Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore, the National Chemical Laboratory, Poona and the Department of Technology, Bombay. This recommendation of the Committee was accepted and the question of taking over the Oil Technological Institute, Ananthapur had, therefore, to be dropped.