

(ii) Cultivation of adequate quantities of herb required for the manufacture of medicines.

(iii) Manufacture of Drugs and sell them to the dispensaries under the C. G. H. S. Scheme and the Central Council for Research in Indian Medicine and Homoeopathy, to start with. supply will, however, be extended in phases, with the corresponding increase in production to other hospitals/ institutions and in the market.

Post Offices/Branch Post Offices/Public Call Offices/Telephone Exchanges in States.

4262. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Post Offices including Branch Post Offices and Public Call Offices and Telephone Exchanges in the country and State-wise break up; and

(b) the conditions laid down to open a Post Office and a telephone exchange and when it is introduced?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BRIJ LAL VERMA): (a) The total number of Post Offices (including Branch Post Offices), Long Distance Public Call Offices and Telephone Exchanges as on 1-4-1977 was 120999, 6633, and 5819 respectively. A State-wise breakup is given in statement 'A' laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-780/77].

(b) (i) New Telephone Exchange are opened whenever Techno-economic studies based on registered demand indicate financial viability of exchanges i.e., enough revenue to cover Annual Running Cost of providing the service.

(ii) Conditions for opening of post office are given in the statement 'B' laid on the Table of the

House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-780/77]. These conditions were introduced in 1959 last modified in 1974.

Inclusion of Violation of Foreign Exchange Regulations in extradition Treaties

4263. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state whether the Government has any proposal to include violation of Foreign Exchange Regulations in Extradiction Treaties with other countries?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): Yes, Sir. The Government has the proposal to include violation of Foreign Exchange Regulations in Extradiction Treaties with other countries.

Diplomatic Exchange with Israel

4264. SHRI F. H. MOHSIN:
SHRI M. KALYANASUNDRAM:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to have diplomatic exchange with Israel;

(b) if so, reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to support P. L. O.'s demand for a separate State?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) India has all along supported the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people including their right to a national State and sovereignty.