

(iv) Offices of Supdt. R.M.S. at Bhopal, Indore, Raipur and Jabalpur.

(v) Offices of Postmasters (Gazetted) at Indore, Raipur, Bhopal and Jabalpur.

Import of components and equipment for manufacture of Helicopters and Aircraft by HAL

196. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. is still importing components and equipment for the manufacture of helicopters and aircrafts ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to reduce imports and make the components and equipments indigenously ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) and (b). M/s. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) are producing a variety of aircrafts and helicopters. Both due to technical and financial considerations, it is not feasible to produce within the country all the components and equipment required for the manufacture of these aircrafts and helicopters. However, in order to reduce country's dependence on imported components and equipments and save foreign exchange, HAL have a regular annual indigenisation programme for manufacture of as many components and equipment as possible.

[*Translation*]

Opening of Branch Post Offices in Uttar Pradesh

197. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOJ ALI KHAN. Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of new branch post offices to be opened in Uttar Pradesh during the current Five Year Plan ;

(b) the number of branch post offices Government propose to open in Etah district in Uttar Pradesh and the number of branch post offices proposed to be converted into sub post offices ; and

(c) if there is no such proposal, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Targets for opening of new branch post offices are approved from year to year by the Planning Commission while approving the annual plan. On receipt of the total annual target it is further distributed among various postal Circles based on their requirements and availability of funds. The Postmasters-General further divide them into various postal Divisions taking into account the need and state of postal developments.

(b) and (c). Upgradation of branch post offices into departmental sub office and opening of sub offices is not a plan scheme and is done whenever justified according to the departmental norms.

[*English*]

Closure of Units Producing Ampicillin and Erythromycin

198. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the production units of ampicillin and erythromycin, the vital antibiotics, are on the verge of closure ;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to save these two vital drug units from closure ; and

(c) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Fixing of minimum fee for advocates under legal aid scheme

199. SHRI CHINTA MOHAN : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the legal aid centres are functioning only in name in most places ;

(b) whether Government propose to raise the limit of earning of those requiring