

(e) the time by which the requisite amount is proposed to be provided to Rajasthan Government and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) Under the Desert Development Programme (DDP), schemes for conservation and storage of rain water in the form of ponds, tanks, etc. are taken up which also provide drinking water to the cattle besides serving the objectives of ecological restoration. For meeting the drinking water needs of both human and cattle population, the Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme is in operation in the areas covered under the DDP. Under this programme 5% of the Plan allocation is earmarked for supply of drinking water to areas suffering from chronic shortage of water due to extreme hot and cold ecosystems. The allocation under this programme in the five States of Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and Rajasthan covered under the DDP is Rs. 16.44 crore for 1989-90.

(b) and (c). Under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme and the State Sector Minimum Need Programme, drinking water is made available through bore wells or tubewells where surface water is not available.

(d) and (e). No fresh proposal has been received from the Government of Rajasthan for financial assistance to install tubewells in such areas as sinking of tubewells has not been made eligible for such assistance under the Desert Development Programme. However, the State Government had been advised in the past to seek such assistance under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme.

Irregularities in Payment of Pension to Freedom Fighters

1633. **SHRI HUKMDEO NARAYAN YADAV:** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether irregularities in the payment of pension to freedom fighters have come to the notice of Government;

(b) whether representations have also been received in regard to irregularities in payment of pension to freedom fighters from Bihar; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) to (c). The Distt. Treasury officers are responsible for making payment of pension to the freedom fighters on receipt of pension payment orders from the respective Accountants General. No representation about the irregularities in the payment has been received in this Ministry.

Widening of National Highway No. 1 Between Murthal and Ambala

1634. **SHRI KAPIL DEV SHASTRI:** Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the contract awarded for widening of National Highway No. 1 between Murthal and Ambala (Haryana), the length of the road widened and the length of the road where the earth and gravel work has been completed, separately;

(b) whether construction work on the road has been held up for the last two years;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the work on the road is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANS-

PORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P.UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) to (d). Statement showing the details of the widening of National Highway No.1 between Murthal and Ambala is given below.

STATEMENT

The work of widening to 4 lanes between Murthal and Karnal (Km. 50.00 to 130.00) in Murthal-Ambala Section of NH. No. 1 was awarded to two construction firms under four contracts. Contract No. 1 from Km. 50.00 to 74.00 was allotted to M/s. N.B.C.C. Ltd. and the remaining reach from Km. 74.80 to 130.00 in three contracts was awarded to M/s. Continental Construction-Bal four Beaty (Joint Venture). Four-laning between Karnal and Ambala has not been taken up yet.

The length of road widened and the length of road where earth and gravel work has been completed are as under:—

| <i>Contract No. & Reach</i> | <i>Total Length to be widened</i> | <i>Length widened</i> | <i>Length where earth work completed</i> | <i>Length where gravel work completed</i> |
|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|--|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| I. Murthal Smalkha (Km. 50.00 to 78.80) | 24.80 | NIL | 4.40 | NIL |
| II. Smalkha-Panipat (Km. 74.80 to 92.80) | 18.00 | NIL | 13.65 | NIL |
| III. Panipat-Madhuban (Km. 92.80 to 114.00) | 21.20 | NIL | 18.70 | NIL |
| IV. Madhuban-Karnal (Km. 114.00 to 130.00) | 16.00 | NIL | — | NIL |
| Total :— | 80.00 | NIL | 36.75 | NI |

(b) and (c). The works have been progressing very slowly and are behind the scheduled programme. The contractor for the reach Km. 50.00 to 74.80 (Murthal to Smalkha) has been expelled from the contract on 5.10.89 for non-performance and fresh tenders for the balance work are being invited. The progress on the remaining reach,

i.e. from Km. 74.80 to 130.00 (Smalkha to Karnal) is also very slow due of lack to input of sufficient resources by the contractor and dispute between the partners of the Joint Venture which was awarded the contract.

(d) In view of the fact that fresh tenders are to be invited, it is too early to indicate the

likely date of completion at present.

Constitution of Telephone Advisory Committee in Jhansi

1635. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether zonal Tele-communication Advisory Committee has been constituted in Jhansi;

(b) if so, when and if not, the time by which it is likely to be constituted; and

(c) the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) No, Sir. Jhansi Secondary Switching Area Telephone Advisory Committee has not been constituted.

(b) and (c). The policy on constitution of Telecom Advisory Committees is being reviewed. Advisory Committees will be consti-

Post Offices

Combined P&T Offices

Telegraph Offices

151

18

8

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A plot of land has been acquired from DDA in the Community Shopping Complex, Kalkaji for construction of a building to house a post office which will serve Alaknanda and adjoining areas. The construction of the building has been taken up on priority basis. The post office is proposed to be opened on completion of the building.

(d) Does not arise.

Complaints of Faulty Design and Work at New Jetty at Kandla Port

1637. SHRI BABUBHAI MEGHJI SHAH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

tuted in accordance with the revised policy.

[English]

Setting up of Posts and Telegraph Office in South Delhi

1636. SHRI E.S.M. PAKEER MOHAMED: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Post Offices and Telegraph Offices in South Delhi area;

(b) whether a new Post and Telegraph office is proposed to be set up in Alaknanda area of South Delhi;

(c) if so, the time by which it is likely to be set up; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) The information is as follows:

(a) whether any complaint in respect of faulty design and work done at the new jetty under construction at Kandla Port has been received by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(c) the extra expenditure involved as a result thereof and who will bear the expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRI SHNAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Due to the movement of soil on the