

Delay in Delivery of Mail in Kerala

3340. SHRI K. MOHANDAS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that delivery of mail is delayed in Kerala ; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to remedy the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No, Sir. However, in June 1985 there had been some delay in the delivery of mail in certain areas of the State lasting about a week due to one day strike by R.M.S. employees on 6-6-85. The position is normal now.

(b) Whenever complaints regarding delay in delivery are received, these are promptly enquired into and remedial action taken to avoid recurrence.

Supply of Kerosene to West Bengal

3341. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the dealers and agents of Kerosene distributors in West Bengal have demanded an immediate ad-hoc release of one lakh Kilolitres per month to the State to ease the prevailing shortage ;

(b) if so, whether Government have since released kerosene as demanded ;

(c) if so, when ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) to (d) No requests from the dealers and agents of kerosene distributors in West Bengal have been received for ad-hoc release of one lakh kilolitres of kerosene. However, requests about additional allocation have been received from the Government of West Bengal from time to time, and releases of kerosene to the State from January to July, 1985, have been made as under :—

(Figures in tonnes)

| Month | Original allocation | Ad-hoc releases | Total allocation |
|-----------|---------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Jan., 85 | 45,150 | 2,350 | 47,500 |
| Feb., 85 | 45,150 | 2,850 | 48,000 |
| March, 85 | 43,890 | 2,110 | 46,000 |
| April, 85 | 43,890 | 2,110 | 46,000 |
| May, 85 | 43,890 | 2,000 | 45,890 |
| June, 85 | 43,890 | 2,110 | 46,000 |
| July, 85 | 42,110 | 2,000 | 44,110 |

Workers on Hourly Basis in Posts and Telegraphs Department

3342. SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has been appointing workers on hourly basis in some of its offices ;

(b) if so, which are such offices ; and

(c) since when these workers have been

appointed and what is their monthly average income ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Department of Telecom. and Department of Posts under the Ministry of Communications are at present employing candidates on hourly basis in the cadres of Telephone operators, Telegraph Asstt.,