

(4) ग्रामीण परिवार कल्याण केन्द्रों के लिये स्वीकृत किये गये चिकित्सा अधिकारियों, स्वास्थ्य वीक्षिकाओं और सहायक नर्स मिडवाइफों के खाली पदों को भरा जायेगा।

(5) बच्चों और भावी माताओं दोनों के बीच प्रतिरक्षण कार्यक्रम पर अधिक बल दिया जायेगा बच्चों के अपोष्णज श्रक्ता तथा विटामिन 'ए' की कमी के कारण होने वाले अन्धेपन से बचाने की योजनाओं को जोरदार ढंग से चलाया जायेगा तथा गर्भरोधन के सभी तरीकों को "छोटे परिवार के सिद्धान्त" के प्रचारार्थ समान बल दिया जायेगा।

(6) जनसंख्या के आधार पर नगरीय केन्द्रों का पुनर्गठन 1976-77 में किया गया था। यह सुनिश्चित किया जायेगा कि नगरीय क्षेत्रों में यथासम्भव नगरीय केन्द्रों को य तो अस्पतालों में खोला जाये या उन्हें प्रसवोत्तर केन्द्रों के साथ सम्बन्ध किया जाये ताकि वे उत्तम सेवाएं प्रदान कर सकें।

Postal Services to Villages

1553. SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are 36,000 villages in the country which did not have postal services at present;

(b) if so, whether Government are taking steps to have postal services facility in all villages by the end of the current financial year; and

(c) if so, the outlines thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b). All the villages in the country get delivery of mail. There are, however, 26,942 villages

which are not covered by the Daily Delivery Scheme.

(c) During the year 1977-78, it is proposed to:

(i) extend the Daily Delivery Scheme to the remaining 26,942 villages;

(ii) appoint agents for the sale of postage stamps and postal stationery in 5000 villages which do not have Post Offices.

(iii) plant about 1,00,000 letter boxes in rural areas; and

(iv) extend postal counter facilities in 50,000 villages through Mobile Post Offices.

Kudremukh Iron Ore Project

1554. SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) stage reached in construction work of Kudremukh iron ore project;

(b) whether the cost of this project has increased from its original estimate; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK): (a). According to the contract with the National Iranian Steel Industries Company, delivery of iron ore concentrate at the New Mangalore Port has to start in September, 1980. Substantial progress has been achieved on various fronts such as civil works, equipment ordering, development of infrastructural facilities, etc. It is expected that the contractual obligation with the Iranian Company will be met.

(b) and (c). This would be known only after the definitive cost estimates are received from the Consultants next month.