

**Opening of Post Office at Village Abloli, Ratnagiri**

4958. SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULEKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a sub-post office at village Abloli in Guhiagar Taluka in Ratnagiri district in Maharashtra is sanctioned long back but the same has not yet been started and the reasons for the same;

(b) whether Government are aware that in this backward taluka in backward district, there are no sub-post offices even in five per cent of the villages;

(c) whether the facilities of post and telegraph provided in this Taluka are too inadequate; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAON): (a) No, Sir. However, approval for upgrading Abloli Extra Departmental Branch Post Office to a Departmental Sub Post Office has been accorded by Director Postal Services, Poona Region only recently. Sanction for upgrading of post office at Abloli will issue soon.

(b) 6 villages out of 78 in Guhiagar Taluka are provided with sub post offices which amount to nearly 8 per cent of the total number of villages. Besides, 45 villages are having branch post offices and 11 are provided with counter facilities through Mobile Post Offices.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The question does not arise.

**Books Published/Translated from Konkani by National Book Trust**

4959. SHRIMATI SANYOGITA RANE: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of books published in or translated from Konkani by the National Book Trust; and

(b) what steps the National Book Trust propose to take to popularise the folk songs and the classics of the Konkani—the language of unrivalled delicacy?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). The publication and translation programme of the National Book Trust is restricted to English and the languages included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India. Konkani is not one of the languages included in the Eighth Schedule.

**Allocation of Foodgrains under Food for Work Programme for Drought Relief**

4960. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of RURAL RECONSTRUCTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of foodgrains allocated to the States during April—June, 1980 for Food for Work Programme for drought relief, State-wise; and

(b) quantity proposed to be allocated during the next three months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) A statement indicating the quantity of foodgrains allocated/released to different States/Union Territories from 1st April to end of June, 1980 under the normal programme and the special programme for drought affected areas is enclosed.

(b) The question of making further allocations is under consideration and the actual quantities to be allocated to different States are yet to be finalised.