

employed persons in exporting their products. The items exported are as follows :

Fresh fruits, vegetables, drugs and pharmaceuticals, sanitary bath room fittings, duplicators, cycle parts, human hair products, tea chests, cotton wool, fountain pens, punching machines, pressure machines, pressure stoves, spectacle frames, sports goods, leather footwear, footwear components, leather and leather goods, woolen and mixed knitwear, woolen rumals and shawls etc.

(d) The Corporation charges a nominal service charge depending upon a number of factors like international prices and internal costs.

**Free trade zone in Haldia Port Area**

1679. SHRI DINESH JOARDER : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any plan to develop Haldia area in West Bengal as a free trade zone; and

(b) if so, what economic benefit are expected from this measure ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). Suggestions have been received by Government for the setting up of Free Trade Zones at various ports including Haldia. Government consider that it might be advantageous to watch the progress of the Free Trade Zone at Kandla for some more time before setting up other Free Trade Zones.

**Airconditioned warehouses for Rubber Stocks**

1680. SHRI A. K. GOPALAN : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government will build air conditioned warehouses for keeping rubber stock for more than two years ; and

(b) if so, the main features of the scheme ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). The Rubber Board has been asked recently to submit a detailed scheme for having the scientific warehouses for storing rubber.

**Setting up of new post Offices in Tripura**

1681. SHRI DASARATHA DEB : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of petitions waiting for consideration for starting new post offices in Tripura ;

(b) whether with heavy influx of Displaced Persons in Tripura, extension of Postal Services in rural areas of Tripura has become long over due ; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA) : (a) As on 31-5-71, twenty representations are pending consideration for opening of new post offices in Tripura. Of these, 13 are for opening of extra departmental branch post offices and 2 for departmental sub post offices.

(b) and (c). No proposal has so far been received from any quarter for extension of postal facilities in Tripura due to heavy influx of displaced persons.

**Separate P & T Circle for Tripura**

1682 SHRI DASARATHA DEB : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to absence of easy communications, it has become difficult for the Post and Telegraphs Department, Tripura to function under the Assam Circle with the Head-Quarter at Shillong ; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to start a separate Circle for Tripura ?