

under the powers of the Directorate.

- (ii) No population restriction is applicable.
- (iii) Post Offices will be located in consultation with local authorities.

"General Conditions"

- (i) The opening of a new post office of all the above eight categories is subject to the condition that it does not result in the parent office being worked at a loss beyond the permissible limit, which at present is Rs. 500 per annum for a parent office in rural areas.
- (ii) Every post office on its opening should be able to produce an estimated revenue to cover at least 25% of the cost involved in opening it.

NOTE : The parent office is the Head, Sub or Branch Office which serves the village or group of villages where a new post office is proposed to be opened ; whereas the term 'Account Office' is used in relation to a branch office and refers to a Head or Sub Office in whose accounts the monetary transactions of the branch office are incorporated.

- (2) The condition of distance, from the nearest existing post office, where applicable, is releasable at the discretion of the Director-General if a natural barrier like an unbridged river or hill or forest intervenes between the proposed post office and the nearest existing post office.

In Urban Areas

Post Offices should be opened in urban areas only when they are found to be self supporting or remunerative and in the case of opening of departmental S.Os. it should also be ensured that they have got work load of not less than 5 hours per day.

Drawbacks in canalising Operations through M.M.T.C.

2958. SHRI S. R. DAMANI : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) the drawbacks brought to the notice of Government in canalising operations through the Metals and Minerals Trading Corporation ; and

(b) the steps taken to overcome them ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Government are not aware of any specific "drawbacks in canalising operations" of the M.M.T.C. Suggestions with regard to the operation of canalised imports are received from time to time. Some of these are as follows :

- (i) that free foreign exchange should be released for the import of newly canalised items to enable the State agencies to import goods from the best sources available ;
- (ii) that for at least six months after canalisation, the actual users may be allowed to import newly canalised items ; and
- (iii) that before imports by private parties are stopped buffer stocks should be created.

(b) The suggestions have been noted for action to the extent considered necessary and practicable.

Unsold Stocks of Handicrafts

2959. SHRI S. R. DAMANI : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity and value of unsold stocks of handicrafts and how much of it is lying for more than a year ; and

(b) the reasons for such accumulation ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). Since no specific organisation has been mentioned holding unsold stocks of handicrafts, the question implies the unsold stocks in the

whole of the country. This figure is not possible to be collected and if an attempt is made to collect this figure, the effort and labour involved will not be commensurate with the benefit which could be derived by collection of this information. Unsold stocks of handicrafts are possible at all levels of production and marketing, namely with the craftsmen, with the middlemen in the trade and with the exporters spread all over the country.

मध्य प्रदेश के मुरैना जिले में टेलीफोन के तार काटने की घटनायें

2960. श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत तीन वर्षों में मध्य प्रदेश के मुरैना जिले में टेलीफोन के तार काटने की कितनी घटनायें हुई ;

(ख) सरकार को उससे अनुमानित कुल कितनी हानि हुई ;

(ग) इस सम्बन्ध में कितने अपराधी गिरफ्तार किए गए ; और

(घ) उनके विरुद्ध क्या कार्यवाही की गई ?

संचार मंत्री (श्री हेमवती नन्दन बहुगुणा :

(क) 152

(ख) 1.62 लाख रुपये के मूल्य के तारों की हानि हुई है ।

(ग) 3 मामलों के सिलसिले में 12 अपराधियों को गिरफ्तार किया गया है ।

(घ) एक मामले में अपराधियों को दोष-मुक्त कर दिया गया है । दो मामले अदालत में प्रनिर्णीत हैं ।

Report of Chandrabhanu Committee on Development in Kerala

2961. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN KADANNAPPALLI : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received the reports of Chandrabhanu Committee in

the matter of the development to be made in Kerala State ;

(b) if so, the main recommendations thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto ; and

(c) the funds sanctioned for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA) : (a) Central Government have not received any such report but the Government of Kerala have stated that they received the report of the Chandrabhanu Committee regarding the development of the Kasargod area on the 26th April, 1971.

(b) According to the Government of Kerala, the main recommendations of the Committee cover programmes of development of communications, irrigation, electricity, agriculture, industry, education health programmes, housing, tourism, etc., in the Kasargod area of Kerala. The State Government is yet to examine the report of the Committee with a view to finding out the total financing implications of the different programmes recommended by the Committee, to what extent, if any, the programmes are already included in the Fourth Five Year Plan of Kerala and which of the programmes can be included in the subsequent Plans of Kerala.

(c) Does not arise.

केन्द्र सरकार के कर्मचारियों की संख्या

2962. श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) केन्द्र सरकार के अधीन इस समय कुल कितने कर्मचारी काम कर रहे हैं ; और

(ख) उनमें राजपत्रित कर्मचारी कितने हैं और अराजपत्रित कर्मचारी कितने हैं ?

श्री मंत्रालय तथा कानिक विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्री दाम निवास बिर्वा) : (क) केन्द्रीय सरकार के कर्मचारियों की कुल संख्या के नवीनतम आंकड़े प्राप्त नहीं हैं । तथापि,