

there was no response. It is now proposed to entrust the works to the State P.W.D. for execution.

#### Berhampur-Phulbani Railway Line

**900. Dr. Kohor:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a proposal to construct new railway line from Berhampur (Ganjam) to Phulbani via Aska and Bhanjanagar and then to Balliguda during Third Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, when the commencement of survey work for the same is expected?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy):**

(a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Visakhapatnam-Bhilai Railway Line

**901. Shri Ulka:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposals to lay a double line (railway) between Visakhapatnam (Andhra) and Bhilai (M.P.) via Raipur; and

(b) if so, when the doubling of the said line would be completed?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy):** (a) and (b). Of the 345 mile long section between Visakhapatnam and Bhilai, the line between Waltair and Vizianagram (38 miles) and Raipur and Bhilai (15 miles) is already doubled. The work on the doubling between Lanjigarh Road and Ambodala (9 miles) and Bissamcuttack and Theruvali (11 miles) is in progress and is expected to be completed by December 1963. The doubling of the remaining single line will be considered as and when justified by the increase in traffic.

#### Postal Services in Orissa

**902. Shri Ulaka:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) how many villages were covered by postal services in Orissa by the end of the Second Five Year Plan period; and

(b) the number of villages that were covered by postal services uptill now from the beginning of the Third Five Year Plan period?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Bhagavati):** (a) and (b). Even at the commencement of the Second Five Year Plan, all inhabited villages in Orissa had the facility of delivery of mails either through the regular delivery staff of a post office or through 'special mazdoors'. During the Third Plan period, improvements have been made in the frequency of delivery service. The position is indicated below:

Frequency of delivery service	No. of villages served	
	as on 1-4-1961 (as per 51-Census)	as on 1-1-1963 (as per 61-Census)
Daily . . .	10,867	15,598
Tri-weekly . . .	18,998	20,270
Bi-weekly . . .	11,128	9,001
Weekly . . .	1,852	1,597
Over a week . . .	38	..
<b>TOTAL . . .</b>	<b>† 42,883</b>	<b>46,466*</b>

\*The increase in the number of inhabited villages as per 61-Census is attributed to rehabilitation of backward areas.

As regards extension of postal services by opening post offices, 1,617 post offices during the Second Five Year Plan period and 571 post offices during the Third Five Year Plan period upto 28-2-1963 were opened in Orissa, mostly in the rural areas.