

designs and economic studies of dual-purpose, nuclear desalination and power plants have been taken up;

(b) whether India will work together with World scientists to find ways for more efficient use of the earth's water resources during the International Hydrological Decade beginning from 1965; and

(c) if so, what type of cooperation will exist among the expert scientists of different countries?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Education (Shrimati Soundaram Ramachandran): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). India is participating in the International Hydrological Decade Programme. The overall objective of the Programme is to accelerate the study of water resources and the regimen of waters with a view to their rational management in the interest of mankind, to make known the need for hydrological research and education in all countries, and to improve their ability to evaluate their resources and use them to the best advantage. Various participating countries will collect basic data relating to water in all parts of the world such as rainfall, evaporation, river-flow, underground water, floods, droughts, effect of man's intervention on water regimes etc. The UNESCO has set up a Co-ordinating Council whose main function is to coordinate the various research activities in scientific hydrology in the participating countries. A National Committee has been set up in India composed of Hydrological experts to draw up an Indian Programme vis-a-vis the International Hydrological Decade Programme. The data collected by various participating countries will be exchanged with the object of securing efficient and optimum utilization of water for the benefit of mankind.

P. & T. Training Centre in Punjab

3294. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Communications be pleas-

ed to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a Post and Telegraph Regional training centre in Punjab;

(b) if so, the place selected for the purpose; and

(c) when the centre is likely to be set up?

The Minister of State in the Department of Parliamentary Affairs and Communications (Shri Jaganatha Rao): (a) There is a Telecommunication Training Centre at Ambala. There is no proposal to set up a Postal Training Centre in the Punjab for the present as its needs are met by the Regional Centre at Saharanpur.

(b) and (c). Question does not arise.

Gun Factory in Punjab

3295. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Punjab has approached the Central Government for establishing a gun factory in the public sector in the State; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Vidya Charan Shukla): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Postal Services in Punjab

3296. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state the number of villages covered by the Postal services in Punjab till the end of December, 1965?

The Minister of State in the Department of Parliamentary Affairs and Communications (Shri Jaganatha Rao): All the villages in the Punjab State have the facility of delivery of mails. The position regarding the frequency of delivery service as obtaining in the