

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The total number of post offices of Gujarat is 8818 as on 30.9.91.

(b) and (c). During the Seventh Five Year Plan only one extra departmental branch post office namely Bhestan extra departmental branch post office was upgraded in Surat district of Vadodara Postal Region.

Backlog of Vacancies Reserved for SCs/STs

1600. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the backlog of vacancies of posts reserved for scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates, both in the category of officers and other categories, in the Ministry of Welfare, in the beginning of this year;

(b) the progress made in filling up these reserved posts during the last three months; and

(c) the time by which the remaining reserved posts are expected to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) to (c). The number of vacant posts in the Ministry is reported to the Department of Personnel & Training from time to time. The posts are filled up under the Central Staffing Scheme or the Central Secretariat Services Scheme by Department of Personnel and Training who also monitor the fulfilment of reservation quota for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in respect of such posts. There are only a few posts for which recruitment is made directly by the Ministry of Welfare. There is no backlog in respect of such posts in the Ministry of Welfare.

Target Achievement of Post and Telegraph Office in Kerala

1601. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for setting up of post and telegraph offices in Alleppey and Pathanamthitta districts in Kerala during 1990-91;

(b) whether the targets have been achieved;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the number of post and telegraph offices proposed to be set up during 1991-92?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). A target of opening 50 extra-departmental branch postal offices was fixed for Kerala Postal circle during 1990-91 which has been achieved. No separate target in this respect for opening of Post Offices and telegraph offices was fixed for these two districts during 1990-91. However, two extra-departmental branch post offices in Alleppey and 8 in Pathanamthitta district were opened during the year.

(c) The question does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

(d) A target for opening 55 extra-departmental branch post offices has been fixed for Kerala Post Circle during the year 1991-92. This includes a target of opening 5 extra-departmental branch post offices for Lakkshadweep Union territory. It is further proposed to open 4 extra departmental branch post offices at Pathanamthitta and 2 in Alleppey district during 1991-92 subject to justification and within the overall target fixed