

[English]

**Relaxation in Norms for Opening
Branch Post Offices in Tribal Areas**

2448. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to give relaxation in norms for opening of new branch and Sub Post Offices in tribal areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the conditions laid down by the department to provide delivery agents to branch post offices; and

(d) the details of conditions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Relaxation for tribal areas is already provided for in the existing norms for opening of sub and branch post offices.

(b) *Branch post offices* :

(i) The minimum population stipulated for opening of a post office in tribal areas is 1500 as against 3000 in normal rural areas.

(ii) The minimum revenue prescribed for a post office in tribal areas is 15% of cost as against 33.1/3% in normal rural areas.

Sub Post Offices (Opened under Plan)

The permissible limit of loss is Rs. 4800/- post office per annum in tribal areas and Rs. 2400/- in normal rural areas.

(c) and (d). There are no conditions. A delivery agent is provided if delivery work

cannot be performed by the branch post-master himself within the prescribed duty period and if the anticipated income of the branch post office as a percentage of its cost is likely to be up to the prescribed limit after taking into account the cost of the delivery agent and other establishment sanctioned for the office.

[Translation]

**Complaints Regarding Telephones
being out of Order**

2449. SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the average number of complaints in regard to telephones being out of order received daily in Delhi and Uttar Pradesh, separately;

(b) whether Government propose to make any special arrangements to resolve these complaints; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) The average number of complains received daily in Delhi is 5336; in Uttar Pradesh the number of complaints received daily is 3309.

(b) and (c). Arrangements exist to attend to these complaints continuously.

**Development of Krishi Upaj Mandls in
Madhya Pradesh**

2450. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Madhya Pradesh Govern-