Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal for releasing postal stamps in the name of four martyrs of the Parliamentary Constituency Sholapur has been lying pending in the Ministry for last several years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the problems faced by the Ministry in releasing aforesaid postal stamps in the name of these martyrs; and

(d) the time by which the Ministry is likely to release these postal stamps?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS, LAW & JUSTICE AND ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

(a) Yes Sir, the proposal for releasing postage stamps in the name of four martyrs of Sholapur was received in 2016.

(b) & (c) The Department received the proposal for issue of Commemorative Postage Stamps on Freedom Fighters of Sholapur, Maharashtra, namely, “Shri Mallappa Dhanshetti, Shri Kurban Hussain, Shri Jagannath Shinde and Shri Kisan Sarda” vide DO letter dated 26.10.2016 from Sh. Subhash Deshmukh, Minister, Cooperation, Marketing and Textiles, Maharashtra State. Proposals for issue of Commemorative Postage Stamps are considered on the basis of extant guidelines by the Philatelic Advisory Committee (PAC) in its meeting. The proposal for issue of Commemorative Postage Stamps on Freedom Fighters of Sholapur is to be placed before Philatelic Advisory Committee (PAC) in its next meeting.

(d) The PAC examines proposals on the basis of the existing guidelines for issue of commemorative postage stamps and recommends an annual stamp issue programme. As soon as the proposal is approved for release by PAC, the date of issue shall be fixed by the Department keeping in view the significant dates relating to the subject.