

(b) *Naga Hostiles:*

(i) An agreement for suspension of operations was reached with Nagas on 6th September, 1964, which applied to the State of Nagaland and the Naga inhabited areas of 3 subdivisions of Manipur, namely, Ukhrul, Tamenlong and Mao (excluding the Sadar tehsil). This agreement has been extended from time to time. Efforts have continued to be made for a peaceful settlement with the Naga underground.

(ii) Vigilance has continued to be maintained in the areas covered by the suspension of operations agreement. And in the bordering areas of Assam and Manipur, where there has been some activity by the Naga hostiles, security arrangements have been strengthened.

*Mizo hostiles:*

(i) The grouping scheme involved the shifting to some selected centres the entire population in an area within 10 miles on either side of the road from Silchar to Lungleh via Aijal in Mizo Hills district. The operation was completed recently and the population of the ground centres, after completion of the operations, is 46,868.

(ii) Operations of the Security Forces against the Mizo hostiles have been intensified.

**Delhi-Bikaner Trunk Telephone and Telegraph Services**

108. Dr. Karni Singh: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a frequent breakdown of trunk telephone system between Bikaner and Delhi in spite of Government assurances to put this service on sound footing;

(b) whether there has also been a breakdown in the telegraphic services between these towns resulting in the Express telegrams being forwarded by ordinary post;

(c) whether it is a fact that during the Fourth General Elections, the trunk and telegraph out-ward services from Bikaner remained unserviceable for a large number of days; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to rectify this important line of communication with a border area?

**The Minister of State in the Departments of Parliamentary Affairs and Communications (Shri I. K. Gujral):**

(a) to (d). Communications between New Delhi-Bikaner have not been satisfactory and a number of steps like construction of new pair of wires and installing a new Eight Channel Carrier System have been taken by the Department. Unfortunately the carrying out of these works caused some disruption to the service. The new Eight Channel carrier system installed in November, 1966 necessitated the opening of two repeater stations at Loharu and Ratangarh where the local power supply turned out to be very unstable causing frequent interruptions to communications. The Department has since arranged for making its own standby power supply arrangements. Unfortunately this period coincided with the Elections and the 'work to rule' agitation of telegraphists resulting in some Ordinary and Express telegrams being posted.

**Strike by Employees of Hindustan Lever Ltd.**

109. Shri S. M. Banerjee:  
Shri Hukam Chand  
Kachhavalaya:

Will the Minister of Labour and Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a lock-out has been declared in the Hindustan Lever Ltd., Delhi since February, 1966;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the employees' demand for a National Tribunal has been conceded; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?