

progress. Since how long is it in progress, how far has it progressed and how long will it continue to progress?

**Shri Y. B. Chavan:** I think I have answered that.

नियमित कलाकारों की सेवा की शर्तें

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\* 723. { श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री :  
श्री जगदेव सिंह सिद्धान्ती :  
श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रताप :  
श्री कृ० चं० पन्त :  
श्री स० मो० बनर्जी :  
श्री बालकृष्ण वातनिक :  
श्री प्र० चं० बरुआ :  
श्री इन्द्रजीत गुप्त :  
श्री दाजी :

क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री 23 नवम्बर, 1964 के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या 155 के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि आकाशवाणी के नियमित कलाकारों की सेवा की शर्तों में सुधार करने के मामले में और क्या प्रगति हुई है ?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman):** A statement showing steps taken to give better service conditions to Staff Artists of all India Radio, in addition to those already enumerated in the reply to Starred Question No. 155 on the 23rd November, 1964, is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library, see No. LT-4137/65].

**श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री :** इस विस्तृत विवरण को देखने से यह अभी तक ज्ञात नहीं हो सका कि आकाशवाणी के इन कर्मचारियों को केन्द्रीय सरकार की नौकरी में अन्य जो कर्मचारी काम करते हैं, उन्हीं की तरह से महंगाई भत्ता, सिटी एलाउंस, छुट्टी या फैमिली पेंशन इत्यादि की सारी सुविधायें मिलती हैं या नहीं मिलती ?

**Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman:** Actually, there are seven heads. The statement consists of two parts. The first deals with fee ranges, allowances, advance for purchase of motor cars, accumulation of earned leave, audition/selection committees, holidays to staff artistes on second Saturdays, and festival advances. Dearness allowance and compensatory allowance admissible to government servants have been sanctioned to staff artistes with effect from 1-10-1964.

**श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री :** मेरा सवाल यह था कि केन्द्रीय सरकार के कर्मचारियों को जो सुविधायें प्राप्त हैं, क्या उसी प्रकार की सभी सुविधायें...

**Mr. Speaker:** The question is whether all those facilities which are available to other Central Government employees are available to staff artistes as well.

**Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman:** Not completely all, but most of them.

**श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री :** इस विवरण को देखने से ऐसा प्रतीत होता है कि सरकार ने महंगाई भत्ता आदि की सुविधायें उनको दी हैं लेकिन उनके वेतन स्केल जो हैं उन में कुछ कटौती कर दी है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि एक हाथ से दे कर दूसरे हाथ से वापिस ले लेता यह कहां की नीति है ?

**Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman:** They are a class by themselves. Taking their representations into consideration—we have been dealing with various representatives—we have been dealing with their conditions of service. They wanted improvement in their service conditions. Some of them will continue till 60 years; some of them are taken at a very late stage in life. So they cannot be *in pari materia* with government servants.

**Mr. Speaker:** He says they are a separate class, and they cannot be

compared with Government employees.

**Shri Indrajit Gupta:** That is not the question which Shri Prakash Vir Shastri asked.

**Mr. Sepaker:** I understood the question.

**Shri Indrajit Gupta:** The question was why the salary should be reduced. Allowances have been increased, but the salary has been reduced. He did not reply to that.

**Shri Daji:** They give with one hand and take away with the other.

**श्री जगदेव सिंह सिद्धान्ती :** जब कि केन्द्रीय सरकार के अन्य कर्मचारियों को सन् 1961 से महंगाई भत्ता, विशेष एलाउंस आदि दिये गये हैं, आकाशवाणी में कार्य करने वाले जो स्टाफ के कलाकार हैं उनको अक्टूबर 1964 से दिये गये हैं। इस भेदभाव का क्या कारण है? क्यों ऐसा भेद किया गया है?

**Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman:** It is so. Government, taking everything into consideration, started giving them these allowances from 1-10-1964. I may also tell the hon. Member that they are also representing with regard to upward revision of the fee ranges, hill allowance, and children's education allowance. We are looking into that matter.

**श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद :** उस समिति की सिफारिश के मुताबिक सरकार ने बहुत सारे कदम उठाये हैं। उस समिति के सामने एक विचारणीय बात यह भी थी कि स्टाफ आर्टिस्ट्स को जो अन्य रेग्युलर सेंट्रल गर्वमेंट सर्वेंट्स हैं उन्हीं के दर्जे पर लाया जाए। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस सम्बन्ध में समिति ने क्या सुझाव दिया और उस सुझाव पर किसी निर्णय पर पहुँचने में सरकार को क्या कठिनाई है?

**Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman:** I think the hon. Member is referring to the Committee which was there about this

in October, 1962. Most of those recommendations have been implemented. Subsequently, many of them were implemented after 23rd November 1964, about which I just now answered. It is also true there are now three or four more points waiting for consideration by us.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** In view of the statement in reply to a question in November 1964 and also in view of the fact that on 8th October, 1964 the Minister announced that henceforth staff artistes will be given five years' contracts, I would like to know whether all artistes whose contracts have since expired, will be given five-year contracts. If not, why not? Also, how many of them have been given five-year contracts?

**Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman:** I am not able to give all those details now. I can say this, that instead of three I can say this, that instead of three years, we have changed it to five years. As regards the notice period, instead of one month, it will be three months, as in the case of government servants.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** My question is not that.

**Mr. Speaker:** He says he will place details on the Table.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** I asked whether the three-year contracts have now been changed to five-year contracts.

**Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman:** I have said that.

**Shri P. C. Borooah:** There are many artistes who have put in years of service and still are on contract basis, while many sub-editors, having the same qualifications as the staff artistes, are promoted to class III of the Central Information Service, despite the fact that the latter are junior. This has created a sense of frustration among the staff artistes. May I know whether Government has a proposal

under which staff artistes will be transferred from the News Services Division to the Central Information Service and absorbed in that cadre as and when vacancies arise?

**Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman:** Some categories of staff artistes stand a very good chance of getting their posts comparable to permanent government servants. But there are other classes which can be understood by the House.

**Shri Indrajit Gupta:** Is the hon. Minister aware of the fact that the All India Radio often engages casual artistes on salaries which are much higher and often double the salaries which are paid, for the same qualifications, to the regular artistes who have been working for 10 or 15 years continuously?

**Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman:** There are many casual artists who may be very brilliant for a very short period, e.g., on *tambura*, or *mridangam*, etc. So for that period and for that contract they are given higher remuneration than the others.

**Shri Daji:** Is Government aware that the demand of staff artistes for at least a canteen to be provided between 10 P.M. to 6 A.M., a simple demand, has not yet been accepted?

**Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman:** It is one of the matters which are receiving our attention.

**Shri Daji:** What is there to 'receive attention' about this? This is a simple matter about their elementary needs. Should they not drink tea, water etc. It is such a simple matter. What is there to consider about it?

**Shri Indrajit Gupta:** They have a canteen; but they close it at night.

**Mr. Speaker:** Probably the *tambura* itself is as good as a canteen!

**Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman:** There are some sections which are working practically the whole night. There are also sections, and there

are some confidential matters which are there to be dealt with; we are also broadcasting news outside. So many other considerations are there. I think the time is coming when we will have a canteen there for those workers.

**Shrimati Vimla Devi:** May I know whether it is a fact that the announcers' jobs are not made permanent because the job depends on their voice; if so, what steps Government is taking to rectify this injustice?

**Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman:** As the hon. Member has herself pointed out, it is just possible that an announcer may be good only for a period.

**Shri Sham Lal Saraf:** May I know whether the Government is aware that only about three years back, even such of the staff artistes as were selected by the UPSC for being absorbed permanently in the department, have not, to this day, been absorbed permanently? May I know if the Government is prepared to reconsider these cases and redress their grievance now?

**Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman:** I am referring to what has happened in the last ten months, and I am referring to the various recommendations that have been accepted. Some recommendations have been given effect to. If this is one of the recommendations, we will look into it.

**Shri Oza:** May I know whether there is a proposal before the Ministry to create a common pool of classical artistes; if so, what effect it will have on their present emoluments?

**Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman:** Classical artistes in the South may be different from those in the North. Also the age at which they shine or the period during which they are useful for broadcasting purposes may not be very long.

**Mr. Speaker:** Dr. Singhvi. Shri P. C. Borooah.

**Shri Kapur Singh:** On a point of order. The answer to this question cannot proceed unless one or two lines which are missing in part (c) of the question are kept in line with parts (a) and (b) of the question.

**Mr. Speaker:** Probably that may not be there, but I can read it. A corrigendum has also been issued, and these have been corrected. That did not come to the notice of the hon. Member perhaps.

#### Diplomatic Assignments for Politicians

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\*725. { Shri P. C. Borooah:  
Shri Narendra Singh  
Mahida;  
Shri Solanki:  
Shri Narasimha Reddy:  
Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases in which diplomatic assignments had been offered to politicians during the last 3 years and the number out of them appointed to various posts;

(b) whether these assignments were offered and appointments made owing to the non-availability of suitable personnel in the Indian Foreign Service Cadre; and

(c) the principles or rules followed in recommending such assignments to the President?

**The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Swaran Singh):** (a) Three diplomatic assignments were offered and all the three public-men have been appointed.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Government appoint persons from public life to posts for which their experience is considered particularly suitable.

**Shri P. C. Borooah:** While people belonging to the services are good administrators and executors, they

are not always good policy-makers. So, may I know whether Government proposes to fill in such posts requiring policy decision by people drawn from public life, who would be more representative of the democratic character of the country?

**Shri Swaran Singh:** Diplomatic missions do not make any policy. They project the policy of the Government whom they represent. This question of selection depends upon the suitability of the person chosen. A good public-man would do in certain cases, and we have appointed public-men also.

**Shri P. C. Borooah:** In reply to a question last Monday, the hon. Minister conceded that categorisation of foreign missions as A, B and C was based on the facilities and comforts available there, and agreed that it was not the facilities or comforts but our relations with the country concerned that should be the guiding factor in making appointments. May I know what practical steps have been taken to give a practical shape to this guiding principle?

**Shri Swaran Singh:** The point is that the suitability of a particular person who is appointed to a diplomatic mission, and his suitability for representing his country in an effective manner in that country should be the guiding principles.

**Shri Narendra Singh Mahida:** Is it the policy of the Government to appoint high-ranking retired army, navy or air force officers to our Embassies, and if so, how many of them are holding such posts, and how they are faring?

**Mr. Speaker:** This is much too general, and it is not proper also to comment on them.

**Shri Surendra Pal Singh:** These public-men who have been appointed as heads of our foreign missions, have any of them been sent to African countries, or where have they been posted?