(c) if not the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri P. S. Naskar): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c). Yes, to the extent possible; the rules governing the subject themselves contemplate extension or curtailment of the normal periods of tenure with the concurrence of the lending authority where the public interest so demands.

Temporary Central Government Employees

*593, Dr. Ranen Sen: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Central Government Employees who have served for more than 10 years, 15 years and 20 years continuously and who have still not been declared permanent;
- (b) the reasons for their not being declared permanent so far; and
- (c) whether there is any proposal to consider the problem of these employees?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Vidya Charan Shukia): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as it is ready.

(c) There is no such proposal under the consideration of the Government at present.

Embezzlement at Boileauganj P.O. Agra

•594. Dr. M. M. Das: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1223 on the 3rd August, 1966 and state:

(a) whether a number of depositors whose money totalling over Rs. 30,000 had been embezzled by the Post Master. Boileauganj Post Office, Agra, appealed to Government for the repayment of their savings in anticipation of the departmental proceedings 2001 (Ai) LSD—3.

against the concerned Post Master; and

(b) if so, the action taken to mitigate their hardship and to repay the deposits in trust with Government?

The Minister of State in the Departments of Parliamentary Affairs and Communications (Shri Jaganatha Rao): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The claims of the defrauded depositors could not be settled so far as the S.P.E., who are investigating into this case, have advised against the settlement of the claims at this stage.

Barauni-Haldia Pipeline

*595. Dr. L. M. Singhvi: Will the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether it is a fact that an avoidable additional expenditure of considerably more than Rupees one errore will now have to be incurred on re-laying a part of the Barauni-Haldia product pipeline;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that this lapse occurred because mining conditions in India were not taken into consideration; and
- (c) whether Government have been able to fix responsibility in the matter?

The Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals (Shri Alagesan): (a) Expenditure involved in relaying a part of the Haldia-Barrami pipeline is still under examination.

- (b) The mining conditions in India were taken into account but operative restrictions on pipeline and coal recovery necessitated realignment of the line.
 - (c) Does not arise.

Ban on employment of Government servants in private services

*596. Shri Madhu Limaye:

Shri Kishen Patinayak:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether instances have come to the notice of Government where some Government employees took up jobs in private firms and entered into collusion with dishonest businessmen:

- (b) if so, whether Government intend to undertake legislation/constitutional amendment to stop this collusion between certain dishonest businessmen and corrupt administrators/ officers, by putting a ban on the trovernment servants taking jobs in private firms when there are charges of misdemeanour pending against them; and
 - (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Charan Shukla): (a) to (c). Some ex-Government servants may have secured employment in private firms, but no specific instances, where they entered into collusion with dishonest businessmen, have come to the notice of Government.

2. Government servants who have secured employment in private firms might have left Government service on account of retirement, retrenchment, removal/dismissal or resignation. So far as private employment of retired Government servants concerned. a copy of the instructions issued on the subject has already been placed on the Table of House in reply to Unstarred Question No. 214 on February 16, 1966. regards private employment of dismissed or removed Government servants, there cannot be any absolute bar which would amount to restriction on a citizen to take up any lawful employment in exercise of his fundamental right to practice any profession or carry on any trade or business. This position has already been explained in reply to Unstarred Question No. 2511 on August 17, 1966. What has been stated in regard to dismissed or removed Government servants equally applies to Government servants who have been retrenched or who have resigned from Government service.

3. The question of Government servants taking up jobs in private firms, while they are in service and charges of misdemeanour are pending against them, hardly arises, because instructions have already been issued prohibiting negotiations for commercial employment while in service, except with the sanction of the competent authority; such sanction will be given only if there are any special reasons for doing so. Sanction would not bе given charges of misdemeanour are pending if a Government servant, against whom charges of misdemeanour are pending, submits his resignation, such a resignation will not normally be accepted. But if as a result of departmental proceedings, a Government servant is dismissed or removed from service, his private employment after such removal|dismissal cannot be restricted, as explained in para 2 above.

Electronic Telephone Exchange

*598. Shri S. C. Samanta: Shri M. L. Dwivedi: Shri Subodh Hansda: Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: Shri P. C. Borooah: Dr. M. M. Das:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Electronic phone Exchange designed by the Indian technicians at the Telecommunication Research Centre and meant to replace the present electro-mechanical exchanges in the next five years, for operational has been tested success:
- (b) the advantage of the new device as compared to the present ones and the comparative cost thereof; and
- (c) whether it is proposed to set up a factory for taking up commercial production of the electronic exchange?

The Minister of State in the Departments of Parliamentary Affairs and Communications (Shri Jaganatha Rao): (a) No. The Electronic Telephone Exchange is still under development.