

**Central Government Employees in Madhya Pradesh**

\*654. { Shri S. M. Banerjee:  
Shri Panigrahi:

Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government Employees in Madhya Pradesh have been asked to pay higher house rent by the Madhya Pradesh Government;

(b) if so, the reasons for this increase; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this matter?

The Deputy Minister of Works Housing and Supply (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) and (b). There existed a reciprocal arrangement between the erstwhile Government of Central Provinces and the Government of India according to which an officer of one Government in occupation of the residence of the other Government, under official arrangement, was to be charged concessional rent at normal rates. After the reorganisation of the States, the Madhya Pradesh Government withdrew from this convention and decided to charge standard rent which is higher than Concessional Rent from 1st November, 1956 from Central Government officers occupying residences, belonging to Madhya Pradesh Government.

(c) The Central Government officers occupying residences under official arrangement would be required to pay normal concessional rent and the difference between the rent claimed by the State Government and the rent paid by the officers would be met by the Central Government.

**Indo-Pakistan Copyright Agreement**

\*655. { Shri D. C. Sharma:  
Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1016 on the 1st

September, 1959 and state the further progress since made in regard to the conclusion of proposed Copyright Agreement between the Governments of India and Pakistan?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): There have been no further developments, as the Government of Pakistan have not completed consideration of amendment of their existing law of Copyright.

**Assistance to Small Newspaper Units**

\*656. Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government give any assistance—financial or otherwise—to small Newspaper units for their sustenance and healthy growth;

(b) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a statement and representation by General Secretary, All India Hindi Newspapers Association; and

(c) what is Government's reaction in the matter?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) to (c). The Government of India do not give financial assistance to newspapers. No representation has been received from the General Secretary, All India Hindi Newspapers' Association, but his statement, as appeared in the Press, has come to their notice. Government give careful and sympathetic consideration to the difficulties of small newspapers and are doing whatever they can to help them.

**Export Licences**

1005. Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of applications received regarding the grant of export licences during 1959-60 so far; and