

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hawal): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

AUCTION TESTS FOR RADIO ARTISTES

***25. Shri Tushar Chatterjea:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the acute discontent that prevails among the radio artistes regarding the method adopted in conducting audition tests of the artistes;

(b) if so, what is the actual complaint of the artistes and the Bhartiya Sangeet Kalakar Mandal; and

(c) what steps do Government propose to take in order to remove the grievances of the artistes and build healthy relations between the artistes and A.I.R.?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) No Sir. There is no discontent prevailing amongst artistes. A section of classical music artistes in Bombay did not want to submit to auditions that are meant for classifying and raising the musical standard of All India Radio.

(b) It is difficult to say with precision what the Kalakar Mandal's actual complaint is. As far as could be seen they have made various complaints from time to time and from the beginning their alleged grievances have been changing ground continuously. In a nutshell the latest complaint appears to be that there should be no auditions or men of their choice should be included in the Audition Board.

(c) All genuine grievances of artistes are always taken into consideration and the relations between the All India Radio and artistes are friendly and good all over the country.

It might be added that after the agitation by a group of casual artistes in Bombay, other artistes in Bombay, leading artistes in Calcutta and other stations, have held meetings to condemn the agitation and have supported the efforts of the All India Radio for the

improvement of music and the audition of artistes.

PAKISTAN TRADE DELEGATION

***26. Shri Amjad Ali:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Pakistan trade delegation is shortly expected at New Delhi in terms of the Indo-Pakistan trade pact signed in March, 1953;

(b) whether the delegation is likely to discuss the possibilities of widening the scope and expanding the volume of trade between the two countries; and

(c) whether the delegation will also discuss the implementation of certain principles approved by the two Governments for regulating the trade between the inhabitants of the adjoining areas of East Pakistan on the one hand and West Bengal, Assam and Tripura on the other?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) to (c). At the Indo-Pakistan trade talks in March last, it was agreed that at a later date, there should be further discussions between the two Governments with a view to widening the scope and expanding the volume of trade between the two countries. The date, venue or the agenda of the meeting has not yet been fixed. Meanwhile, the Agreement which was operative up to 30th June 1953 has been extended up to the 30th September 1953.

A. I. R. ARTISTES TRAINED IN B. B. C. AND EUROPEAN STATIONS

***27. Shri Eswara Reddy:** (a) Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state whether it is a fact that every year the Imperial Trust of Great Britain selects an A.I.R. Artiste for training in the B.B.C. and in the European stations at their own expense?

(b) If so, who have been their candidates from A.I.R. in 1951, 1952 and the current year?

(c) Who was recommended for selection in the current year by A.I.R.?

(d) Who was the candidate recommended by the Information and Broadcasting Ministry?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) The Imperial Relations Trust, now known as Commonwealth Relations Trust, has a bursary scheme for the training of nominees of broadcasting organisations in the B.B.C. Expenses of the bursar relating to his travel, training etc. are paid by the Trust.

(b) The candidates nominated were 1951—Sri S. Verghese, Assistant Director of Listener Research, All India Radio 1952—Sri K. P. Shungloo, Deputy Director, External Services Division. All India Radio. 1953—None.

(c) Shri R. S. Sharma, Editor, *Indian Listener*.

(d) None

INSTALLATION OF POWER UNIT AT BHAKRA DAM

***28. Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to install a power unit at the Bhakra Dam Project has been accepted by the Government of India;

(b) if so, when the decision was taken;

(c) who participated in the discussion;

(d) whether any such units are going to be installed on the Nangal Canal also; and

(e) whether there has been any change in the original proposal for establishing power generating units in those areas?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) and (b). At the Conference held on the 26th May 1953, it was decided that the designs of the Bhakra Dam and Generating units should proceed on the basis that further generating units will

be installed on the Dam itself, and that no further generating units should be installed on the Nangal Canal besides the four units already scheduled to be installed for Nangal Stage I out of the ultimate number of six units.

(c) Representatives of the Central Government, the Planning Commission and the Government of Punjab.

(d) Four units are already scheduled to be installed on Nangal Canal.

(e) The change has been explained in reply to part (a).

RADIO STATIONS

***29. Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Radio Stations in Cuttack, Nagpur, Patna, Shillong-Gauhati and Allahabad have been installed in the year 1948;

(b) whether any of these Radio Stations have since been made high-power ones;

(c) whether there is a proposal to increase the capacity of the Cuttack Radio Station from that of 1½ Kwts; and

(d) whether afternoon programmes of the Cuttack Radio Station have been withdrawn from the first week of May, 1953?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) Yes Sir, except the station at Allahabad which was installed in 1949.

(b) 10 KW MW Transmitters were installed at Nagpur and Gauhati in March and May 1953 respectively.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The mid-day transmission from the Cuttack Station was discontinued with effect from 31st May, 1953.

EXPORT TRADE

***30. Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state what is the tendency of India's export trade now in 1953-54 especially in respect of jute, tea and oil-seeds?