

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Anti-India Propaganda by Pakistani Media

920. KUMARI UMA BHARTI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

the measures being taken by the Government to counter the anti-India propaganda being made by Pakistan media in the districts adjoining Pakistan Border areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : The measures include strengthening the terrestrial network of All India Radio and Doordarshan to improve their coverage in the border areas by commissioning new stations, upgrading the power of some of the existing transmitters and broadcasting programmes, including news bulletins, that present the facts in their proper perspective.

Oil Refinery in Orissa

921. SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the site for the proposed oil refinery in Orissa has been finalised; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b). Govt. has accorded stage-I clearance to IOC for their Eastern India Refinery Project. Action for Preparation of DFR has been initiated by IOC. The exact location of the refinery will be decided based on Detailed Feasibility Report.

Inclusion of Backward Castes in Central List

922. SHRI RABI RAY : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the names of some backward castes which have been included in the States List have not found their place in the Central List;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government to include them in the Central List?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Only those Backward Classes which are common both in Mandal Commission list and State List have been included in the Central List.

(c) The National Commission for Backward Classes Act, 1993 was enacted on the direction of the Supreme Court to set up a permanent body for entertaining, examining and recommending upon requests for inclusion and complaints of over-inclusion and under-inclusion in the Central Lists of Other Backward Classes of citizens.

Exploitation in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

923. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of traders are entering into Andaman and Nicobar Islands and exploiting their forest and sea wealth and has become a security threat for the Islands; and

(b) if so, the action the Government contemplate to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (PROF. M. KAMSON) : (a) and (b). According to information received from the Andaman and Nicobar Administration, there is no report of exploitation of forest wealth by traders entering into the Islands. As regards sea wealth, some licences have been issued to vessels for fishing purposes. Nothing adverse has come to notice in this connection from the security angle.

E.D. Employees

924. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH :

SHRI N.K. BALIYAN :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of E.D. employees at present, circle-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to regularise their services as regular employees;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The Circle-wise number of E.D. Agents as on 31.3.1995 is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) In view of the reply to (b) above, the question does not arise.