

(c) whether Government propose to take steps to remove the genuine grievance of the "Mazdoors" and sanction the supply of Uniforms and Sandals without further delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING, AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SHER SINGH): (a) Yes. Under the Departmental rules Mazdoors on Postal side are not eligible for supply of uniforms, but in Bombay G. P. O. the supply was made by local authorities irregularly. This has been stopped.

(b) and (c). It is true that several representations have been received in this connection. The proposal for supply of uniforms to Mazdoors is linked up with the general question of supply of uniforms to excluded categories i.e. the categories of staff, who are not eligible for supply of uniforms at present, and which is under consideration of a Committee of the National Council of the Joint Consultative Machinery.

#### Restrictions on Cultural Horizon of AIR Listeners

4906. SHRI M. L. SONDHAI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that literary achievements of person of Indian origin abroad are in several cases of very high order;

(b) whether there is any ban on literature, written by person of Indian origin, residing abroad, who may not be Indian nationals, being broadcast on All India Radio network;

(c) whether Government proposed to restrict the cultural horizon of AIR listeners by rejecting literary material of high merit sent by writers of Indian origin domiciled abroad; and

(d) if not, whether Government will direct the External Services Division of All India Radio to keep an open mind when considering literary materials received from writers of merit among persons of Indian origin abroad, especially from Africa in accordance with UNESCO philosophy of inter-cultural and inter-racial understanding?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING, AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Plan for New Building of Bombay General Post Office

4907. SHRI M. L. SONDHAI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bombay G. P. O. Building is not safe in view of the dilapidated condition and taking into account the collapse of a portion of it during the month of February, 1970;

(b) why Government continues to endanger the lives of 3000 officials working in the Bombay G. P. O. in spite of the clear technical advice that the General Post Office building is unfit for use in the present condition;

(c) the steps Government propose to take to ensure the safety of the men and women working in the Bombay G. P. O. and the general public; and

(d) when Government intends to start work on a new building for the G. P. O.; and the date when the plans for the new building were approved and the reasons for the delay in starting work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING, AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SHER SINGH): (a) to (c). About 200 sq. of the roof of the varandah on the second floor of the West Wing of the GPO Building collapsed on 22-1-70. When gunniting work of this roof was being carried out. Load tests in respect of the portions of the roof which have been gunnited recently are being arranged to be carried out to ascertain the safety of such roofs. It has, however, been found that the roof and floor slabs require immediate replacement. Resorting to this instead of whole sale dismantlement and construction of a new