

Retirement of Government servants

1541. SHRI P. M. MEHTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the number of Government servants compulsorily retired during the last three months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI O. M. MEHTA): Information regarding premature retirement of Central Government servants in public interest is collected for each quarter ending 31st March, 30th June, 30th September and 31st December. Information for the quarter ending 30th June, 1976 is not complete as it is yet to be received from many Ministries and Departments. However, information has been received from most of the Ministries/Departments for the quarter ending 31st March, 1976. According to this information, during the quarter from January to March 1976, 167 Central Government servants comprising 19 in Group A, 43 in Group B, 86 in Group C and 19 in Group D, have been prematurely retired in public interest.

Use of coal instead of oil by textile mills/industries

1542. SHRI P. GANGADEB;
SHRI B. S. BHAURA;
SHRIMATI PARVATHI
KRISHNAN;
SHRI P. GANGA REDDY:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether five hundred crore rupees will be saved per year if coal, instead of oil, is used to run textile mills/industries;

(b) whether industrialists are lukewarm in accepting the Centre's advice to opt for coal instead of oil; and

(c) if so, steps taken/to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir. The savings of oil during 1976-77 on this account are valued at Rs. 48 crores in terms of foreign exchange.

(b) and (c). Mainly because of financial constraints, problems of space for storage of coal and atmospheric pollution from chimney smoke etc., the pace of conversion from oil to coal burning has been slow. Government is examining these aspects.

Launching of Indian National Satellite Project "INSAT"

1543. SHRI P. GANGADEB;
SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR
SINGH;
SHRI ISHAQUE
SAMBHALI:

Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration for launching the Indian National Satellite Project "INSAT";

(b) whether the proposal is to fabricate the first national satellite for the "INSAT" system abroad; and

(c) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND MINISTER OF SPACE (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The matter is still under consideration of the Government and no final decisions have been taken so far.