

from one post abroad to another post abroad, thus serving more than three years abroad continuously; but the recommendations of the pillai Committee for a four-year term of duty at each Mission abroad before transfer, was considered, and it was decided that the existing practice of a three-year term should continue.

(c) It is the goal of the Ministry to ensure that officers upto the rank of Deputy Secretary/Director serve at Headquarters at least twice on rotation. In the past 10 years, nearly two-thirds of the officers have served at least twice at Headquarters in ranks upto Director.

(d) During the last one year (1-3-77--28-2-78) 51 I.F.S. Officers (including Head of Missions) were transferred from Headquarters to Missions abroad; 72 from Missions abroad to Headquarters; and 44 from one Mission to another.

High Growth Rate of Population

4198. PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any concrete active & effective steps to check the high growth rate of population in the country during the first full year of the new Janata regime at the Centre;

(b) if so, broad details thereof, including the net results/gains achieved, if any;

(c) the State-wise population-growth-rate for the years 1975, 1976, & 1977; and

(d) the total expenditure incurred on this count by the Central Government for the said period of three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). A note giving details is laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1914/78].

Inadequate supply of the Steel Sheets Tin Plates in Gujarat

4199. PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that number of small-scale units in the country frequently face an acute and/or inadequate supply of black and white thin steel sheets, tin-plates, etc;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to remedy the said short fall situation;

(c) whether the Government of Gujarat recently made any representations in the matter to the Central Government; and

(d) if so, Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) to (d). There have been representations from small scale units in the country for increased supplies of cold Rolled Sheets/Coils in thinner gauges. GP/GC Sheets and Tin Plates. The Government of Gujarat also wrote to the Central Government regarding shortage of pig iron and the difficulties reportedly being faced by the small scale units in obtaining supplies of scarce items like hot rolled and cold rolled sheets through the local stockyards. The following steps have been taken to improve availability of these materials:—

(i) Plants have been advised to improve production of these items as much as possible;

(ii) Supplies to State Small Industries Corporation who cater to the demands of small scale units have been stepped up;

(iii) Imports of thinner gauge Cold Rolled coils and sheets, Tin Plates and GP Sheets have been allowed where necessary; and

(iv) Supplies of thinner gauge cold rolled sheets to traders from the stockyards of Hindustan Steel stockyards have been restricted.

The Government of Gujarat have been apprised of the position.

Hostels for the Temporary Residence of Indian Diplomatic Personnel

4200. PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government run one or more hostels in New Delhi and/or elsewhere in the country for the temporary residence of Indian diplomatic personnel;

(b) if so, full facts thereof;

(c) reasons for running such a/or more hostel/hostels; and

(d) the actual expenses incurred on these hostels during the year 1975, 1976 and 1977 giving broad details of heads of expenditures involved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S. KUNDU): (a) The Ministry of External Affairs has been running only one hostel in the

country at New Delhi on Kasturba Gandhi Marg for the temporary residence of its officers and staff mainly belonging to the Indian Foreign Service(A), Indian Foreign Service (B) and those who are permanently under the administrative control of this Ministry.

(b) The hostel has the following types of accommodation:—

Single room	40 Nos.
Single room with kitchen	20 Nos
Family suite	40 Nos.

It started functioning in the year 1965 to provide accommodation to the officers and staff of the Ministry of External Affairs, either on transfer to Headquarters or on home leave or on leave preparatory to retirement or on consultation duty or under orders of transfer abroad. An IFS (A) Probationer is also allotted accommodation in the hostel during the period of his training in Delhi. The Hostel also provide accommodation to the families of official serving abroad in certain specified cases;

(c) to provide transit accommodation till the officers arrange alternative accommodation for themselves;

(d) Details of the expenditure incurred on the hostel during the financial years 1975-1976, 1976-77 and 1977-78 are as under:

Head of A/c	1975-76	1976-77	1977-78
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Salaries	2,78,500	2,69,900	2,63,200
Other Charges	1,19,200	1,58,800	1,57,300
TOTAL	3,97,700	4,28,700	4,20,500

Special Stamp of Netaji Portrait

4201. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the portrait of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose installed in

the Central Hall of the Parliament will be projected for patriotic purpose by issuing special stamp on its basis;

(b) if so, facts thereabout and if not, the reasons thereof;