

Staff strength in postal organisation in Maharashtra

5493. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the postal organisation in Maharashtra is functioning with adequate strength as per norms laid down in this behalf;

(b) the number of sanctioned posts in Class I, Class II, Class III and Class IV as on 31st December, 1980 and the number of them against whom persons were actually working on that day in Maharashtra; and

(c) the number of persons on leave on that day class-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAON): (a) to (c) The information is being collected from the Postmaster-General, Maharashtra Circle and the same will be placed on the table of the House.

Confirmations of Female Vice-Principals by Delhi Administration

5494. SHRI CUMBUM N. NATARAJAN: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of females appointed as Vice-Principals by the Delhi Administration in 1970 on the recommendations of the duly constituted Departmental Promotion Committee, who are still continuing or would have continued but for their appointment to the next higher grade;

(b) the reasons why they have not been confirmed so far; and

(c) the recruitment rules applicable to the post of Vice-Principals in 1970 and on date?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) According to information furnished by the Delhi Administration, 25 female officers were appointed as Principals/Vice-Principals

of Government Schools on an *ad-hoc* basis on the recommendation of the Departmental Promotion Committee and they are still continuing as Principals on an *ad-hoc* basis.

(b) The fixation of seniority in the cadre of Vice-Principals depended on the finalisation of seniority list of Post Graduate Teachers which was finalised in August, 1979. A tentative Seniority List of Vice-Principals is now being prepared and the cases of eligible Vice-Principals will be taken up for confirmation against available posts.

(c) A copy of the Recruitment Rules in force in 1970 is laid on the Table of the House. Placed in library. [See No. LT-2251/81]. A copy of the Recruitment Rules currently in force is laid on the Table of the House. Placed in Library. [See No. LT-2251/81].

Telephone Communications in Coal Belt of Asansol and Raniganj .

5495. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the steps taken by Government to improve the telephone communications in the coal belt of Asansol and Raniganj and between these areas and Calcutta and Delhi in view of the need for safety in mines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAON): The following steps have been taken to improve the telephone communication in the Coal-belt of Asansol and Raniganj:

(i) The junctions between Asansol-Barakar and between Asansol-Neeyamatpur telephone exchanges are being augmented by providing better quality junctions working on PCM system.

(ii) A 60 channel UHF radio system is planned to be installed on the Durgapur-Raniganj-Asansol route. This system will provide stable communication between Raniganj.

ganj, Asansol and Durgapur as the present telephone cables are subject to thefts.

(iii) STD service to Calcutta already exists from Asansol, Raniganj and other group exchanges. Technical works relating to extension of the STD facility to Delhi have been completed and the route is under traffic trials.

Political leaders in occupation of Government Accommodation

5496. SHRI N. E. HORO: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are a number of political leaders who have been Members of Parliament or Metropolitan Councils or had been holding some other posts, are still in occupation of Government Accommodation;

(b) if so, the number of such persons and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether some of them have got their own houses in Delhi but they are not vacating the Government accommodation; and

(d) whether some of them are also not making regular payment of rent and if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There are 17 political leaders who are still occupying Government accommodation. In 7 cases, allotments have been cancelled and further action to get the houses vacated is in progress. Position with regard to the remaining is as follows:—

(i) Seven ex-MPs. from Assam have been allowed to retain accommodation till the election process in that State is completed.

(ii) one ex-M.P. has been allowed to retain accommodation in his capacity as Chairman of a Government Committee.

(iii) One ex-M.P. has expired but his family has been allowed to retain accommodation up to May, 1981.

(iv) In one case, allotment has been continued on medical grounds up to 9-2-81. His request for further retention is under examination.

(c) Under the rules, Members of Parliament are not barred for allotment of Government accommodation and, therefore, this information is not available with this Ministry.

(d) Yes, Sir. Steps are being taken to realise the outstanding amounts.

Foodgrains for part payment of wages under employment Guarantee Scheme in Maharashtra

5497. PROF. MADHU DANDA-VATE: Will the Minister of RURAL RECONSTRUCTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that adequate foodgrains are not made available to Maharashtra for the payment of part of the wages in the form of foodgrains to the workers working in the Employment Guarantee Scheme; and

(b) if so, what steps are taken to remove the difficulties faced by the workers working in this scheme for want of adequate food assistance from the Centre?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BALESHWAR RAM): (a) and (b) Allocation of foodgrains to different States under National Rural Employment Programme are made on the basis of a fixed formula, under which weightage to the extent of 75 per cent is given to the population of agricultural labourers/marginal farmers and of 25 per cent to the incidence of