

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri P. S. Naskar): (a) and (b). 463 applications were received till 18th January, 1960 which was the last extended date for the receipt of applications. Out of these, 42 persons have been provided with built-up accommodation, 91 have been allotted small plots of 100 sq. yds. each and 22 are being allotted 200 sq. yds. each instead of 100 sq. yds. originally allotted to them. 268 persons were found to be ineligible and the remaining 39 cases are still under consideration.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know whether it had not been represented to the Ministry that the date for receipt of applications should be extended? If so, has the Ministry considered that request favourably?

The Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): I cannot answer it off hand. We have extended it more than once—twice or thrice. After all, we have to finalize it. If any particular case is brought to my notice, I will consider it on merit and if it deserves any consideration I am prepared to send it on the Committee. But I cannot give an indefinite commitment in this matter.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Who are the members of this committee which processes these applications for assistance?

Shri P. S. Naskar: The Committee consists of Dr. Yudhvir Singh, Chairman, Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani, M.P., Member, Shri C. K. Nair, M.P., Member and Shri Jag Prवेश Chand, Member.

Shri B. Das Gupta: The figures that the hon. Minister has given, I take it, do not cover Bengal. What is the figure about Bengal? How many political sufferers have made applications and how many of them have been given this aid?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: If the question refers to Delhi, I can only give information about Delhi. As far as Bengal is concerned, I might inform the hon. Member that about a month

or so ago I invited a large number of political sufferers in Calcutta, old revolutionaries, and I am having their cases also examined—to what extent they have already received rehabilitation assistance and what further rehabilitation assistance is required in each case. But it must be clearly understood that I can only deal with political sufferers who are displaced persons and who conform to the conditions for relief and rehabilitation. I cannot act on the general question.

Shri Daljit Singh: What facilities have been given to the children of the political sufferers?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: I have just stated that I am a Minister for Rehabilitation. I do not make any discrimination between A refugee and B refugee, except that in the case of political sufferers I am having these cases examined to see what best could be done. Otherwise, to me a D.P. is a D.P. whether he comes from the east or from the west.

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: Has the Minister the right or power of revision from the orders of the committee? Has he revised the orders in any case?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: I have always kept myself rather aloof in the matter of revision.

#### Indian News Agencies

\*1257. Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to refer to the statement laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha in reply to Starred Question No 2070 on the 27th April, 1959 and state

(a) whether Government have re-examined the question of ensuring satisfactory arrangements for the availability of foreign news and protecting the legitimate interests of Indian news agencies so that they may develop well,

(b) if so, the results thereof; and

(c) whether any formula has been evolved in this regard?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Shri A. C. Joshi): (a), (b) and (c) Government hope to come to a final decision soon on this question. As mentioned in the statement laid on the floor of the Sabha on the 27th of April, the present *ad hoc* arrangement with suitable modifications might have to continue until Indian news agencies subscribe to some foreign news agencies and have not to depend on only one.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: May I know whether it is a fact that the original objective at the time of the formation of the P.T.I. was that it should also cater foreign news? If so, what progress has been made in this direction?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keshkar): As the P.T.I. is an independent news agency, it is not possible for me to give detailed information on the subject. However, I understand informally that they are at present negotiating with some foreign agency to buy their services.

Shri Tyagi: Have Government received any applications from other Indian news agencies asking for permission to collaborate with any other foreign agency other than Reuters?

Dr. Keshkar: We have received one application but I had occasion to mention that Government is laying down definite rules for Indian agencies to receive facilities like teleprinter circuits etc. That will be settled soon. That application will be considered after this decision has been implemented.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Braj Raj Singh.

Shri Tyagi: I wanted to know what the policy is.

Mr. Speaker: I have called Shri Braj Raj Singh.

श्री ब्रजराज सिंह : यही मिनिस्टर महोदय ने बतलाया कि किसी न्यूज एजेंसी की एक दरखास्त पर विचार हो रहा है । मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि हिन्दुस्तानी भाषा की एक मात्र न्यूज एजेंसी हिन्दी समाचार समिति की किसी दरखास्त पर भी क्या कोई विचार हुआ है, और क्या उस को भी विदेशी समाचार एकत्र करने के लिये कोई सुविधाएँ देने का सरकार का विचार है ?

डा० केशकर : अभी मैं ने जो जवाब दिया उसे माननीय सदस्य ने ठीक से सुना नहीं । मैं ने कहा कि इस समय हम कौन कौन से नियमों का पालन करने पर किसी न्यूज एजेंसी को बोनाफाइडी न्यूज एजेंसी समझा जा सकता है इस पर विचार कर रहे हैं । वह नियम करीब करीब तैयार हो गये हैं । उन के तैयार होने के बाद जब कोई एजेंसी सरकार से स्पेशल फॅसिलिटी चाहेगी तो उन नियमों के अनुसार उन का फॅसिलिटी देने का फैसला किया जायेगा ।

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: In view of the fact that the P.T.I. is more or less a Government organisation, may I know whether Government proposes to actually set up

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. What answer is the hon. Minister to give? Is he to say that it is not a Government organisation? Questions ought not to be

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: Please listen to me.

Mr. Speaker: I have already listened to the earlier portion of the question. Hon. Members ought not to make any suggestions. They might ask a question which will elicit an answer. On the other hand if it is combined with other things the hon. Minister thinks that it is not right. Is he to answer such questions? Therefore the Question Hour is to be utilised for the purpose of eliciting information only and not for making any suggestions or even any allega-

tion. Otherwise, we cannot carry on with the Question Hour

**Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** I am very sorry that you thought it as an allegation. It did not occur to me. But maybe

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member who asked the question, does not consider that

**Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** I did not make an allegation. If you consider it

**Mr. Speaker:** What is he to answer then? Is he to answer, we will assume that he wants to say that it is not a Government organisation?

**Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** You may rule it out after you have heard my question

**Mr. Speaker:** I have heard that portion of the question and that is irrelevant. She may ask a question if she likes

**Shri Joachim Alva:** It is over ten years since Reuters abdicated their interest in the PTI. Why is it that the Government has not taken the whole matter in its own hand and has allowed the Directorate of the PTI to do whatever they like and not build up an agency which is the prime need of Indian journalism? Why is it that they have taken so much time?

**Dr. Keskar:** There is no doubt that there is need not only for one but two or three agencies in this country. But such agencies must be independent news agencies. I had occasion to explain on the floor of the House that it is not for Government to establish news agencies but Government will certainly look with sympathy on the establishment of Indian news agencies more than one. As far as helping the P.T.I. is concerned, Government cannot subsidise or help a news agency. If the service of a news agency is good, Government

will certainly subscribe to that service and pay it on merit.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** I wanted to ask this question, namely, since the PTI is more or less an organisation which has the support of Government does Government propose to set up a series of independent sources of news and set up an international news agency? That was my question

**Dr. Keskar:** The first point is not correct

**Mr. Speaker:** That is exactly the answer I anticipated

**Dr. Keskar:** The point is that PTI is the only agency in the country and whether Government like it or not, they have to subscribe to it. If there had been more than one agency it would have been possible for us to say that this service is better or that service is better. As far as Government's trying to help or initiate the establishment of Indian agencies is concerned, may I say that there is contradiction in the very suggestion? If Government initiates it then it might be accused of trying to have something which is under Government influence. But we would certainly welcome the formation of Indian agencies more than one

श्री भक्त बर्षन पी० टी० आई० विदेशों से जो समाचार प्राप्त कर के इस देश में प्रचारित करता है, क्या उन व्यवस्था से गवर्नमेंट का मन्तोष है? और यदि नहीं है, तो उस ने कौन से ठोस कदम उठाये हैं ताकि उस का स्तर उचा हो सके?

डा० कैसकर: गवर्नमेंट का मन्तोष नहीं है, यह जाहिर है, क्योंकि पी० टी० आई० केवल रायटर एजेंसी पर निर्भर है, और हम ने पी० टी० आई० बोर्ड में भी कह दिया है कि हम समझते हैं कि उन की मजिस्ट के लिये यह जरूरी है कि एक से ज्यादा फारेन न्यूज एजेंसी को वह सब्साइड करे।

उनके कहने से उन के मार्ग में ज्यादातर धार्मिक विपक्ष घाती मालूम पड़ती है। मुझे उम्मीद है कि वह दूसरी किसी महाहर फारेम ग्लूज एजेंसीज को भी सम्झाइन करेगे।

श्रेष्ठ गोविन्द दास क्या माननीय मंत्री जी को यह मालूम है कि विदेशी समाचार प्रसारित करने वाली इसी प्रकार की कोई भी एजेंसी चल सकती है जिस को टेलिप्रिन्टर लाइन और इसी तरह की दूसरी सुविधायें देश की खबरे देने के लिये दी जा सकें? क्या सरकार इस पर कोई विचार कर रही है कि हिन्दी भाषा में और दूसरी भारतीय भाषाओं में इस प्रकार की कोई टेलिप्रिन्टर लाइनों कुछ खास एजेंसियों को दी जा सकती है?

डा० केशकर हालांकि यह सवाल इस से सीधा नहीं उठता है, लेकिन मैं माननीय सदस्य से इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि हिन्दी टेलिप्रिन्टर लाइन्स का बढ़ाना हिन्दी टेलिप्रिन्टरो की सख्या बढ़ने पर निर्भर है। इस विधा में कोशिश की जा रही है और मुझे उम्मीद है कि जब काफी हिन्दी या दूसरी भाषाओं में टेलिप्रिन्टर मिल जायेंगे तब इस विधा में कदम उठाये जायेंगे।

**Shri Joachim Alva:** The hon Minister takes shelter under the fact that the PTI is the only agency going. I want to know what efforts

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon Member will kindly avoid all this preamble

**Shri Joachim Alva:** What efforts have Government made to keep the UPI going—the UPI which was founded by the sweat and tears of many pioneers and which was offering the co-operation of a foreign agency? Government allowed it to die though it owed some money to the Government which could have been squared up by asking it to pay in long instalments

**Dr. Keskar:** This question relating to the UPI has been answered here

in detail. But I might say that short of subsidising Government did everything in its power to help the UPI if it had to close down it due to its own inherent defects and not on account of any want of Government sympathy.

**Shri C. E. Fattabhi Ramana:** Has Government used its good offices to expedite entering into some sort of an agreement with other international agencies in the European and the American theatre?

**Dr. Keskar:** How can Government arrange for dissemination of news? That can only be done by news agencies.

**Shri Tyagi:** The hon. Minister has just now stated that the Government have asked the PTI to have collaboration with some other foreign news agency. I want to know if that were done will the door be closed for any other private agency to contact foreign agencies and establish collaboration with them?

**Dr. Keskar:** No, Sir. The point was that we are at present allowing newspapers to have direct arrangements with foreign news agencies due to the fact that the PTI has arrangement with Reuters only and a kind of monopoly is created in the dissemination of foreign news in the country. If there are more than one or two or three agencies in the country subscribing to various foreign news agencies, that system need not continue which we are forced to do at present.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** As has been disclosed just now, the UPI recently went out of existence. How the assets, particularly the teleprinter etc which belonged to the UPI being utilised at present and what efforts are being made by the Government to create a new international news agency of our own?

**Dr. Keskar:** As far as the first part is concerned, I require separate notice

Regarding the second part I understand that one or two efforts are being made to start independent news agencies. As I said, we would welcome them. But probably the projects are only in the stage of formation and have not advanced further.

**Shri Tangamani:** Is the Government aware that there are other news agencies also in India other than the PTI, like the Indian Press Agency, news items of which we find in the newspapers under IPA?

**Dr. Keskar:** The whole question of what is a real news agency and what criteria there should be is being examined by us at present, and I hope to inform the House very soon about the general principles which we propose to lay down for that purpose.

श्री भक्त दर्शन श्रीमन्, माननीय मंत्री ने यह तो बताया कि वे विदेशों से समाचार प्राप्त करने के लिये पी० टी० आई० आदि को सुविधायें देना चाहते हैं तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि पी० टी० आई० के संचालकों ने उसके प्रति क्या रवैया अपनाया है, उनका दृष्टिकोण क्या है ?

**डा० केशकर :** पी० टी० आई० के संचालकों का कहना है कि फारेन एजेंसीज में दो, तीन एजेंसीज का सबस्क्रिप्शन देना उनके लिये सम्भव नहीं है क्योंकि प्राथिक दृष्टि से उनका सामाना सर्वा बहुत बढ जायेगा लेकिन वह इस दिशा में कोशिश कर रहे हैं ।

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know to which foreign news agencies the Government of India subscribes and what are their names?

**Dr. Keskar:** Government is not directly subscribing to any foreign news agency.

**Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:** How many newspapers in India have so far directly made arrangements with foreign news agencies?

**Dr. Keskar:** The only arrangement at present existing is the one to which I replied in the statement I laid on the Table in April last. That

is, the *Times of India* has an arrangement with the Associated Press of America. We have an application for an arrangement by the *Hindustan Times* with the A.F.P. These are the only two. There is a third one by the *Indian Express* Group with the United Press International of America.

#### Hostels for Unmarried Government Employees

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\*1258. { Shri A. M. Tariq:  
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:  
Shri Bhakt Darshan:

Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3211 on the 18th April, 1959 and state the nature of progress made so far regarding the construction of two hostels in Delhi for the Central Government employees who are unmarried?

**The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Anil K. Chanda):** The plans have been finalised, as also the site for the men's hostel. The location of the women's hostel is still under consideration and necessary estimates for both the hostels are being prepared.

श्री डा० मु० तारिक : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जब कि दिल्ली में कुंवारे मर्दों को रहने की बेहद दिक्कत है तो यहाँ हुकूमत उस होस्टल को बनाने के लिये कितना बख्त लेगी ? हम उस होस्टल को बनाने की बात पहले भी सुन चुके हैं और यह कि उसके लिये प्लान बनाया गया है तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि उस होस्टल को बन जाने में कितना बख्त लगेगा ?

{ شری ع - م - طارق: میں یہ جاننا چاہتا ہوں کہ جب کہ دلی میں کلوارے مرد کو رہنے کی یہ سخت دقت ہے تو اس حکومت اس ہوٹل کو بنانے کے لئے کتنا وقت لگی - ہم اس ہوٹل کو بنانے کی بات پہلے ہی