

Station in South Andaman of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands has been cleared by the Central Electricity Authority and the Planning Commission. A formal administrative sanction is expected to be issued shortly. Preliminary works are under progress and the installation work is likely to commence in early 1983-84.

(b) The agency for carrying out the installation works would be decided in consultation with the Andaman & Nicobar authorities.

(c) To the extent possible and practicable Group 'C' and Group 'D' employment would be made locally.

(d) No CEA staff has been posted to Port Blair from main land for the purpose so far.

Increase in Number of Notaries for Poona

3556. SHRI V.N. GADGIL: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE and COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of Notaries sanctioned for Poona city; and

(b) whether Government propose to increase the number in view of the fast growth and increasing demands of the city?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGAN NATH KAUSHIK): (a) The

(i) Vindhyachal STPS (St. I)

Unit size	- 6×210 MW
Foreign contracting party	- M/s. Techno-prom export (USSR).
Indian Agent	- Nil
Contract Value	- Rs. 321 crores (approx)

(ii) Rihand STPS (St. I)

Unit size	- 2×500 MW
Foreign contracting party	- M/s. Northern Engineering Industries (U.K.)
Indian Agent	- Nil
Contract Value	- Rs. 410 crores (approx).

number of Notaries to be appointed by the State Government of Maharashtra from its quota for Poona District is 4. There is, however, no such stipulation in the quota for appointment of Notaries by the Central Government in Maharashtra State.

(b) Yes Sir, a proposal in this regard is under consideration in consultation with the State Government of Maharashtra.

Power Projects Contracted on Foreign Manufacturers and Suppliers

3557. SHRI RAM PRASAD AHIRWAR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) names of thermal power projects being contracted on foreign manufacturers and suppliers;

(b) number and size of thermal units (in MW), names of foreign contracting parties and their Indian agents and values of contracts in crores of rupees; and

(c) whether global tenders were invited for the award of each of the above contracts, if not, the reasons for the same in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) and (b). Contracts have recently been finalized for setting up of Vindhyachal Super Thermal Power Station (Stage-I) and Rihand Super Thermal Power Station (Stage-I). The details are given as under:—

(c) No Sir. The Vindhyachal STPS (Stage-I) is being set up in pursuance of the provisions of the Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation between India and USSR signed in December, 1980. As regards Rihand STPS (Stage-I), in pursuance of an offer made by U.K. on a bilateral basis, NTPC held discussions and concluded a contract with a British Consortium of manufacturers for the setting up of the project.

**Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes
Regional P.F. Commissioners**

3558. SHRI N. E. HORO: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribes Regional Commissioners are working in the Employees Provident Fund Organisation; if so, how many Commissioners belong to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe category;

(b) whether it is a fact that none of the Scheduled Tribe/Scheduled Castes Regional Commissioners is working independently in the Regional Offices throughout India;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Junior Regional Commissioners pertaining to general category are working independently in the Regional Office throughout India;

(d) how many such Junior Regional Commissioners are working independently in various States of India;

(e) the reasons of this distinction against the SC/ST Regional Commissioners in the Employees Provident Fund Organisation; and

(f) what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): According to the Employees' Provident Fund authorities the facts are as follows:

(a) Yes, Sir. Four officers belonging to the Scheduled Caste community and one belonging to the Scheduled Tribe community are working as Regional Provident Fund Commissioners/Deputy Regional Provident Fund Commissioners in the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). The posts of Regional Provident Fund Commissioners (Grade III) and Deputy Regional Provident Fund Commissioners are equivalent and belong to a common cadre carrying the same scale of pay. Their posting either as Regional Provident Fund Commissioner or Deputy Regional Provident Fund Commissioner does not involve any supersession or monetary loss. Their postings as Regional Provident Fund Commissioner or Deputy Regional Provident Fund Commissioner are done on administrative considerations and in the exigencies of public service.

(e) and (f). Does not arise.

Junior Engineers upgraded as Junior Engineers Group 'B' Officers in P&T Department

3559. SHRI TRILOK CHAND: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 800 J.Es were upgraded as J.Es. Group 'B' officers in May 1981 and whether SC/ST candidates were also promoted according to the quota or reservation;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the P&T Department had conducted a competitive examination in November, 1981 for the remaining JEs to be selected in which mostly persons belonging to the SCs/STs remaining were candidates;

(d) if so, reasons why an examination for the remaining approved candidates only was conducted;

(e) whether all the selected candidates had necessarily to take the 1981 competitive examination (those already promoted and those who were yet to be promoted) or only those candidates who were yet to be promoted were required to take the competitive examination; and

(f) if so, the reasons why SC/ST candidates were asked to take examination separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a)