

of the Model Code of conduct for the guidance of political parties and candidates issued by the Election Commission containing the guidelines in regard to use/misuse of official machinery at elections is laid on the Table of the House (Placed in Library. See No. LT-5802/83). Attention of the Chief Electoral Officers/Chief Secretaries of the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, and Tripura was drawn by the Commission to these guidelines. By its telegrams dated the 30th November, 1982, 2nd December and 14th December, 1982, the Commission also specially invited the attention of the authorities concerned in these States to the consolidated instructions of the Commission in connection with conduct of elections.

Bihar Press Bill Discussions with Press, Journalists

374. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:
 SHRI KAMAL NATH:
 SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADHUKAR:
 SHRI P. M. SAYEED:
 SHRI EDUARDO FELIERO:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to lay a statement showing:

- (a) whether the Bihar Press Bill was discussed with various representatives of Press, Journalists, etc.;
- (b) if so, those who attended the meeting and names of the organisations represented by them;

(c) the main points/objections raised;

(d) outcome of the talks;

(e) whether the Ministry have made some suggestions to the Bihar Government; and

(f) if so, the details?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN):
 (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The names of the persons who participated in these discussions and the names of the organisations which they claimed to represent are given in the attached statement.

(c) and (d). The representatives of these organisations were of the view that there is no justification for the enactment of the 'Bihar Press Bill'. However, as result of the dialogue with the Associations of the Press and the newspaper industry, the Government was able to get a clear picture of what were considered by them to be the objectionable features of the Bill. This was helpful in the consideration of the Bill by the Government. Further, the agitation launched by the Press at the national level against the Bill was also suspended.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Statement

(a) *The meeting held on 29th October, 1982*

S.No.	Name of the Press Associations	Represented by
1	Indian Federation of Working Journalists	1. Shri A. Raghavan and 2. Shri M. K. Ramamurthy
2	The National Union of Journalists (I)	1. Shri N. K. Trikha and 2. Shri Prithvis Chakravarti

S.No.	Name of the Press Associations	Represented by
3	Press Association of India	1. Shri S.C. Antharaman and 2. Shri Sunit Ghosh
4	All India Newspapers Editors' Conference	1. Shri Vishwa Bandhu Gupta
5	Editors' Guild of India	1. Shri S. Sahay 2. Shri K. Narendra and 3. Shri M. V. Desai
6	Indian & Eastern Newspapers Society	1. Shri Ramesh Chandra
7	Indian Language Newspapers Association	1. Shri Pratap T. Shah
8	All India Small & Medium Newspapers Association	1. Shri Prem Chand Verma
9	All India Small & Medium Newspapers Federation	1. Shri Harbajan Singh 2. Shri C. L. Khanna and 3. Shri Kesar Singh
(b) <i>Meeting held on 6th December, 1982.</i>		
1	Indian Federation of Working Journalists	1. Shri A. Raghavan and 2. Shri Upendra Vajpeyi
2	National Union of Journalists (I)	1. Shri N. K. Trikha and 2. Shri Prithvis Chakravarti
3	Press Association of India	1. Shri S.C. Anantharaman 2. Shri Sunit Ghosh and 3. Shri Vijay Sanghvi
4	All India Newspapers Editors' Conference	1. Shri Vishwa Bandhu Gupta
5	Indian & Eastern Newspapers Society	1. Shri Ramesh Chandra 2. Shri Basudev Ray
6	Indian Language Newspapers Association	1. Shri Mahendra Mohan Gupta
7	All India Small & Medium Newspapers Association	1. Shri Prem Chand Verma
8	All India Small & Medium Newspapers Federation	1. Shri Atur Sangtani 2. Shri Harbajan Singh