

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) Postings of staff to various Doordarshan Kendras are done on the basis of programme needs of the Kendras, linguistic requirements, qualification and experience of the individuals etc. It is neither always necessary nor possible to post the senior-most persons of a certain category to a particular Kendra.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Foreign Assignments for Cameramen

2451. SHRI DAYA RAM SHAKYA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of AIBD trained Cameramen who had gone abroad for visits and for news coverage with VIPs/ V.V.I.Ps ;

(b) the number of Cameramen not trained by AIBD centre abroad for news coverage ; and

(c) whether AIBD trained persons are given preference for such foreign assignments ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) Nine AIBD trained Cameramen had gone abroad for news coverage with VIPs/VVIPs.

(b) Twenty one Cameramen who were not trained at AIBD had gone abroad for news coverage with VIPs/VVIPs.

(c) Cameramen are sent abroad for coverage of visits of VIPs/VVIPs keeping in view their experience and training as well as suitability for such coverages.

#### Ban on Manufacture of Harmful Medicines Pesticides and Weedicides

2452. SHRI J.S. PATIL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of medicines, pesticides, weedicides etc., the production and/or application of which is banned in U.S.A. and Western European countries (since they are proved to be harmful for human life, environment etc.) are manufactured and/or sold for consumption in the country by various multinational companies ;

(b) if so, the names of such medicines pesticides/weedicides etc. and the companies which manufacture and/or sell them in our country ;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there is a persistent demand from various quarters to ban the manufacture and/or use of such medicines etc. harmful for human life, environment etc. ; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to stop the production and/or use of such harmful medicines, pesticides, weedicides etc. in India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI R.C. RATH) : (a) to (d) The import and manufacture of pesticides in India, is regulated, inter-alia, under the Insecticides Act, 1968. Before allowing the import/manufacture of pesticides in the country, the Registration Committee, set up under the Act, takes into account all the relevant aspects like efficiency of the insecticide and its safety to human beings and animals with reference to Indian conditions.

There have been demands that Government should review the use of those pesticides, use of which has been prohibited or restricted in U.S.A. and/or European countries. The need to ban a pesticide is taken

after fully evaluating whether any adverse effects would be caused by its use under the agro-climatic conditions of this country. Further, if any adverse report is received about any insecticide already registered for imports/manufacture in India, relevant details are obtained and studied with reference to effects of its continued use in the country after which an appropriate decision is taken in regard to permitting continuation of its usage in the country.

According to the available information, among the pesticides widely used/manufactured for utilisation in India, use of which is not permitted in U.S.A. or are restricted in some other countries, mention may be made of DDT and BHC. While the former is manufactured by Hindustan Insecticides Limited, mainly for usage under the National Malaria Eradication Programme, the latter is manufactured by :

- (i) Alkali & Chemical Corporation of India (now Indian Explosives Ltd.)
- (ii) Tata Chemical Limited.
- (iii) Kanoria Chemical Industries Ltd.
- (iv) Mico Farm Chemical Ltd.
- (v) Hindustan Insecticides Ltd.

Even in respect of BHC, large quantities are used for N.M.E.P.

In respect of drugs, according to available information, out of 24 drugs that have been banned in some countries, 18 drugs have either been banned or not approved for marketing in India. In respect of the remaining 6 drugs, namely ; Nitrofurans compounds, Phenformin, Hydroxyquinoline derivatives, Higher dose lynestronol products, piperazine and Phenylbutazone/Oxyphenbutazone, a decision has been taken to permit marketing them on the advice of Technical Experts, keeping in view medical needs of the country, subject to a cautionary statement and contra-indication being given on the label/package insert in some cases.

### Vacant Posts of R.P.F. Commissioner in E.P.F. Organisation

2453. SHRI N.E. HORO : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of sanctioned posts of Regional Provident Funds Commissioner in the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation is totally inadequate to cope up with the huge volume of work of the Organisation ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that some posts of Regional Commissioners are lying unfilled for several months including some posts arising out due to retirement of some Commissioners ;

(c) whether it is not the responsibility of the Government to draw panels in time for filling up such vacancies ; and

(d) if so, the reasons why Government delayed and are still delaying filling up of these posts in spite of availability of a number of officers eligible for promotion to these posts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI DHARMAVIR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) The posts of Regional Provident Fund Commissioners in the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation are required to be filled by way of promotion. Promotions are considered by Department Promotion Committees convened by the Union public Service Commission. Consequent upon the restructuring of the grades of Regional Provident Fund Commissioners and in view of the amendments proposed to the recruitment rules of the posts, certain procedural and administrative requirements are to be fulfilled before the proposals for convening the meetings of the Departmental Promotion Committees are sent to the Union Public Service Commission. Necessary