

(iii) Homage to Lai Bahadur Shastri.

Setting up of Indian International News Agency

1127. SHRI BRIJ RAJ SINGH-KOTAH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up a full-fledged Indian International News Agency ; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI DHARAM BIR SINHA) : (a) and (b). Recognising the need for effective dissemination of news from and to India, Government are interested in the formation of a well-equipped and adequately-staffed Indian International News Agency. While Government will encourage the formation of such an Agency, it is not their intention that it should be owned or managed by Government.

Advisory Boards of A.I.R

1128. SHRI BRIJ RAJ SINGH-KOTAH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of sittings of Advisory Boards of A.I.R. that took place during the last year ;

(b) the recommendations made by the Boards ; and

(c) the suggestions accepted by Government ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI DHARAM BIR SINHA) : (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-284/71]

Conversion of All India Radio into an Independent Body

1130. SHRI BRIJ RAJ SINGH-KOTAH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether some political parties have approached Government to make the All India Radio an independent body ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI DHARAM BIR SINHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There has been no change in the decision conveyed to the Lok Sabha on the 12th November, 1970 in reply to Unstarred Question No. 681 that Government have decided not to constitute All India Radio into an autonomous Corporation for the present.

Changes in Administrative set up of Government

1131. SHRI B. S. MURTHY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs while addressing the Annual Day Function of the Secretariat Training School, Delhi, on the 19th May, 1971, said that the pattern of administration will in many spheres undergo a sea-change ; and

(b) if so, the changes contemplated and the department involved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b). The statement was made in the context of the need to ensure that norms and ideas of administration keep pace with the fact changing pattern of society. There is a continuous process of innovation and reform within Government itself seeking to adjust the content of administrative