

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (GRIH MANTRALAYA MEN RAJYA MANTRI) (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) According to the 1961 Census, 49.85 lakhs of people in the country returned their mother-tongue as Maithili. Certain organisations and individuals have made a demand for the inclusion of Maithili in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.

(b) and (c). It is the considered judgment of the Government of India that in the wider national interest the Eighth Schedule should not be enlarged further. The question of inclusion of Maithili in the Eighth Schedule does not, therefore, arise.

पटसन के उत्पादनों के मूल्य बढ़ाने
या उस पर से शुल्क घटाने की माँग

425. श्री बिभूति मिश्र : क्या विदेश व्यापार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या पटसन उद्योग ने सरकार से अनुरोध किया है कि पटसन के उत्पादनों के मूल्य बढ़ाये जाएँ अथवा उन पर से शुल्क घटाया जाए ; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो सरकार ने उस पर क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

विदेश व्यापार मंत्रालय में उप-मन्त्री (श्री ए० सी० जार्ज) : (क) उद्योग ने कालीन अस्तर को न्यूनतम कीमतों में बढ़ोतरी की माँग की है। पटसन उत्पादों पर निर्यात शुल्क समाप्त करने के लिये समय समय पर अभ्यावेदन भी दिये गये हैं।

(ख) इन मामलों में कोई विनिश्चय नहीं किया गया है।

Alleged Harassment of Harijans by Political Parties after Mid-Term Elections

426. SHRI BIBHUTI MISHRA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS (GRIH MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether in a number of States Harijans have been harassed after the Lok Sabha Elections by certain political parties and groups of people ; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken

by Government to ensure the safety of the Harijans and weaker sections from victimisation by certain political parties and groups of people ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (GRIH MANTRALAYA MEN RAJYA MANTRI) (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) According to the information received from the State Governments of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Nagaland and the Union Territory Administrations of Chandigarh, Manipur, Goa, Daman and Diu, L. M. and A. Islands, NEFA and Tripura, there have been no such instances. Information from the remaining State Governments and Union Territory Administration is awaited.

(b) On receipt of specific complaints of harassment action is taken under the law. To ensure that Harijan victims of harassment do not suffer from any handicaps in the course of investigation or trial of such cases, some measures have been suggested to State Governments. One of the measures is that serious cases involving Harijan victims should be treated as "special report cases" to be investigated by senior police officers not below the rank of a Deputy Superintendent of Police.

**Delhi University Teachers for Programmes
over A. I. R. Delhi**

427. SHRI BIBHUTI MISHRA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SOOCHANA AUR PRASARAN MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of teachers of the Delhi University are called to participate in programmes broadcast by the Delhi Station of A.I.R. ;

(b) if so, the criterion of extending invitations to them ; and

(c) whether only a particular set of the people are generally invited and other people, who are also well known for their journalistic and scholarly contributions, are not invited at all ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SOOCHANA AUR PRASARAN MANTRALAYA MEN UP-MANTRI) (SHRI DHARAM BIR SINHA) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Knowledge of the subject matter,

ability to communicate through the medium of the spoken word, voice, pronunciation, etc.

(c) No, Sir.

Political Murders in West Bengal during President's Rule

428. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS (GRIH MANTRI) be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 66 on the 31st March, 1971 and state the party-wise breaked up of the total political murders which took place in West Bengal during the President's rule in 1970 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (GRIH MANTRALAYA MEN RAJYA MANTRI) (SHRI K. C. PANT) : Information is being collected from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Pre-Election Combing Operations in Calcutta

429. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS (GRIH MANTRI) be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 108 on the 31st March, 1971 regarding pre-election combing operations in Calcutta and 24 Parganas District of West Bengal and state :

(a) the number of C.R.P., B.S.F. and Army personnel who took part in the combing operations ;

(b) the details of the arms, ammunition and explosives seized ; and

(c) whether and foreign made arms, ammunition and explosives were seized and, if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (GRIH MANTRALAYA MEN RAJYA MANTRI) (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) to (c). Information is being obtained.

Closed Textile Mills in West Bengal

430. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE (VIDESH VYAPAR MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether nearly 50 per cent of the Textile Mills in West Bengal are now closed, rendering 20,000 employees jobless ;

(b) if so, the list of mills which remain closed ;

(c) the number of workers and employees working in each of the closed mills ;

(d) the causes of closures in each case ; and

(e) the steps taken to get them reopened ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (VIDESH VYAPAR MANTRALAYA MEN UP-MANTRI) (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) to (e). The required information is given in the statement attached.

STATEMENT

There are 41 cotton textile mills in West Bengal. Excluding two mills considered fit to be scrapped, the following 13 cotton textile mills were lying closed at the end of April, 1971 :—

Name of the mil		Workers on roll	Reasons for closure
1	2	3	4
1.	Sodepore Cotton Mills Ltd., Sodepore.	422	Labour reasons.
2.	The Kanoria Industries (Cotton Mills Section), Konnagar.	400	Mismanagement and financial difficulties.
3.	Laxminarayan Cotton Mills Ltd. Rishra.	1437	Financial difficulties.
4.	Bengal Textile Mills Ltd., Cossimbazar.	445	Financial crisis.