

**Action against Government Employees making Representations through Members of Parliament**

2490. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government employees are penalised for making any representation through the Members of Parliament;

(b) if so, whether a Member of Parliament has no right to represent the case of a Government employee who is also a voter in his constituency; and

(c) whether copies of the relevant rules under which disciplinary action is taken against the Government employees will be laid on the Table of the House?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA):

(a) to (c). Rule 20 of the Central Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964 lays down that no Government servant shall bring or attempt to bring any political or other influence to bear upon any superior authority to further his interests in respect of matters pertaining to his service under the Government. A similar provision exists in Rule 18 of the All India Services (Conduct) Rules, 1968 in respect of officers belonging to the All India Services. A statement containing copies of these rules is attached. In view of these rules, normally a Government servant approaching a Member of Parliament for sponsoring his individual case runs the risk of disciplinary action.

*Statement*

Copy of Rule 20 of Central Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964

20. *Canvassing of Non-Official or other Influence.*—No Government servant

shall bring or attempt to bring any political or other influence to bear upon any superior authority to further his interests in respect of matters pertaining to his service under the Government.

**Copy of Rule 18 of The All India Service (Conduct) Rules, 1968**

18. *Canvassing*—No member of the Service shall bring or attempt to bring any political or other influence to bear upon any superior authority to further his interests in respect of matters pertaining to his service under the Government.

**Song and Drama Division Artistes Threatened with Termination of Contract**

2491. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the artistes of the Song and Drama Division have been threatened with termination of their contract;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same;

(c) whether the office-bearers of the Song & Drama Division Employees' Association have approached the Minister in this regard; and

(d) if so, his reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI DHARAM BIR SINHA): (a) No, Sir. No artiste has been threatened with termination of contract, but contracts of three artistes at Poona were terminated in February, 1971.

(b) Do not arise.

(c) and (d). Yes, in regard to the case referred to in (a) above. The matter is under consideration.

#### Setting up of Apex Bodies in States for Technology

2492. SHRI K. BALATHANDAYUTHAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have proposed to States to set up an apex body for science and Technology under the Chief Ministers; and

(b) if so, their composition and functions?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The States' Chief Ministers were requested on September 18, 1971 to set up, in their respective States, an apex body for scientific and technological policy under the Chief Minister on the lines of the National Committee on Science and Technology. As regards composition of the body, it is entirely within the competence of State Governments to constitute them in the manner they wish to. But the Central Government would hope to see on these bodies Scientists representing a wide spectrum of scientific disciplines of particular relevance to development plans within the State Sector like Medicine, Agriculture, Public Works, Irrigation as well as Universities, Technical Colleges. If any State Government so wishes, the Central Government would be glad to consider asking scientists and Engineers working in Central Govern-

ment Laboratories to cooperate fully with the work of these Committees either as members or consultants.

#### Underground Nuclear Tests for Nuclear Engineering

2493. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether in recent months Russia, U. S. A. and France have undertaken a number of underground nuclear explosion tests;

(b) if so, the nature and explosive capacities of such nuclear tests;

(c) whether India also proposes to undertake underground nuclear tests for nuclear engineering purposes; and

(d) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken in the direction of developing capability for nuclear engineering in India?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS, MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) and (b). A statement showing the underground nuclear tests undertaken by USSR and USA during the period June 1, 1971 to November 6, 1971 is attached. France has not conducted any underground test during this period.

(c) and (d). The Atomic Energy Commission is studying situations under which peaceful nuclear explosions carried out underground can be of economic benefit to India and keeps itself fully abreast of all developments in this field.