

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI NANDINI SATPATHY): (a) and (b) Because of their importance in a federal set-up, certain forms of communication including broadcasting are included in the Union List of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution. There is no proposal to make any change in the List in this regard.

Coordination among the Agencies engaged in Oceanographic Research

4964. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of Governmental and educational agencies engaged in oceanographic research in the country;

(b) whether the Department propose to take up a plan for bringing coordination among these agencies and provide a unified approach to the problems of ocean and atmosphere and exploitation of the resources; and

(c) if so, the main features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) A list of the governmental and educational agencies engaged in oceanographic research in the country is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See. No. LT-1928/72]

(b) and (c). It has been proposed to establish a high level full time agency to bring about coordination among various agencies and to provide unified approach to the problems of ocean and exploitation of its resources. The proposal is under the consideration of the Government.

Absorption of Test Call Operators under Delhi Telephones as Class III Employees

4965. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Test Call Operators working under the Delhi Telephones appealed to the Prime Minister for absorption as Class III employees;

(b) whether these employees have received a notice that they were appointed as labourers on daily wages and consequently have no right to claim for regular absorption ;

(c) whether they have been given seven days to accept the decision of the authorities, otherwise their services will be terminated; and

(d) the reaction of Government to their demand for absorption as class III employees ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA) : (a) Certain daily rated staff employed by the Delhi Telephones on daily wages appealed to the General Manager, Telephones, Delhi, with a copy endorsed amongst others to the Prime Minister of India, for absorption as regular Telephone Operators. In addition to the above, certain other representations have also been received from them by the Minister for Communications for regular absorption in the Cadre of Telephone Operators. The request was carefully considered and rejected being inadmissible. The representationists have been informed accordingly.

(b) and (c) . Yes. A decision in the matter was taken that these daily wage mazdoors cannot be absorbed as regular Telephone Operators. They have been informed that they can continue as casual mazdoors if they are so willing, until their eventual absorption in Class IV in their turn and have been asked to indicate their willingness to continue as casual mazdoors.

(d) A decision has already been taken in the matter as stated in answer to parts (b) and (c) above.

Shortage of Cement in West Bengal

4966. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a news-item which appeared in *Hindustan Standard* dated the 12th April, 1972 under the caption "West Bengal faces acute cement crisis";

(b) if so, the factors responsible for cement crisis in West Bengal; and