

**Ministerial Committee for Suggesting  
Basic Administrative Reforms**

2306. SHRI P. GANGADEB:  
SHRI P. M. MEHTA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are setting up a small Ministerial Committee to suggest basic administrative reforms for the speedier implementation of Government decisions and if so when the Committee is likely to be set up;

(b) whether the Committee will also study the system of selection of candidates for Administrative Service; and

(c) whether Government are going to bring out changes in the present system of selection of candidates for various Administrative examinations, if so, the proposed changes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA):  
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A recommendation of the Administrative Reforms Commission in its report on Personnel Administration regarding the setting up of a Committee to go into the questions of devising speedier methods of recruitment in general, of bringing down the proportion of candidates to posts of reducing the expenditure on publicity and of revising the syllabus of the examinations for the higher services is under consideration.

**Selection of Projects in each State**

2307. SHRI P. GANGADEB  
SHRI P. M. MEHTA:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Planning Commission is

considering a scheme for selecting two projects in each State and aid their implementation through supply of funds, equipment, expertise, managerial personnel and other assistance; and

(b) if so, the broad outline of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Defeated Members of Parliament and Ministers Appointed as Chairmen of Public Sector Corporations**

2308. SHRI RAMKANWAR Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of defeated Ministers, Members of Parliament who have been appointed recently as Chairmen of Public Sector Corporations, and

(b) the factors weighing in favour of these individuals for appointing them as chief of these autonomous corporations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA):  
(a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Development of Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh as a Satellite Launching Station**

2309 SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU: Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in developing Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh as satellite launching station; and

(b) the expenditure so far incurred on the project?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS, MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF SPACE (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) The approach bridge and road from Sullurpetta, a launching pad and a block house have been completed. The rocket assembly building and a hardware store are nearing completion. The electrical sub-station is operational. The range has become operational and the first rockets were launched in October, 1971.

(b) The capital expenditure incurred so far is Rs. 75 lakhs on land acquisition and Rs. 150 lakhs on works.

**Representation for Enquiry Regarding the Working of the Convents in Kerala**

2310. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation demanding an enquiry into the working of the Convents in Kerala after the running away of a sister from a Convent in Trichur District with burn injuries suffered in retaliation from the Convent authorities; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto and the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b). A representation has been received from one sister Annie Rosamma containing allegations of cruel treatment by the authorities of a Convent in Kerala. The facts in regard to the allegations are being ascertained from the State Government.

**Excessive Telephone Billing**

2311. SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state how many complaints have been received for excessive billing of Telephone calls for the year 1970-71 and upto October, 1972 in Delhi and what specific remedial measures have been taken on these complaints?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): The number of complaints for excessive billing of telephone calls in Delhi for the year 1970-71 and October, 1972 are 5,404 and 565 respectively.

Specific remedial measures taken are as follows:—

- (i) Cycles of routine checks and testing of equipment have been increased.
- (ii) Special schedules are introduced to check the working of equipment frequently.
- (iii) Heights of the Distribution boxes are being raised and arrangement for locking these boxes is in progress.
- (iv) Supervision over the line staff has been strengthened.
- (v) The subscribers have been cautioned about their visitors making STD calls on the pretext of making local calls and also to replace the hand-set properly and to check for dial-tone after STD call is over.
- (vi) Suitable checks have been prescribed for detecting and rectifying clerical and arithmetical errors in the bills.
- (vii) Check-meter to indicate the number of STD calls for providing at subscriber's premises is under trial.
- (viii) Computerisation of building system is under way.