

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA):

(a) The Question is concerned with the general issue of the delinking of newspapers from the business houses.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) According to the information given by the Government of West Bengal, the state of affairs in Basumati newspaper has improved considerably after its take-over by the State Government. Its circulation is reported to have gone up from 3500 to about 20,000 copies.

Massive Transfer of Coal Mines

3342 SHRI VĀSANT SATHE. Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is massive transfer of coal miners;

(b) if so, reaction of Government; and

(c) steps taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (PROF. SIDHESHVAR PRASAD): (a) and (b). There has been no massive transfer of coal miners. Some transfers of under-utilized mine workers for the purpose of rationalising the deployment of labour have been going on as this process is a continuous one and necessary for the optimum efficiency and utilization of labour in an expanding industry in which a large number of new mines are being opened and existing mines developed further, in different parts of the country.

(c) Does not arise.

Employment of Educated Youth in Sixth Plan

3343. SHRI SHYAM SUNDER MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any target for employment of educated youths in Sixth Plan period; and

(b) what is the present position of unemployment among rural youths, as today?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SANKAR GHOSE): (a) No quantitative target for employment of educated youths in the Sixth Plan period has yet been worked out.

(b) Precise estimates of the extent of unemployment among educated rural youths are not available. However, according to a survey of the registered job seekers conducted by the Directorate General of Employment and Training, Ministry of Labour, approximately 16 lakh persons belonging to rural areas who had educational qualifications of matric and above, were registered with employment exchange, as on 30-6-1973. The survey also revealed that bulk of these job seekers were below 30 years of age.

District Correspondents for Radio Stations

3344. PROF NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been decided to appoint District Correspondents for Radio Stations in the various States to give wide publicity to the progress and implementation of the 20-point Economic Programme;

(b) if so, the number of Districts in the country which are still without District Correspondents at present and the names of such districts in Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan; and

(c) the likely date by which the appointments would be made in all such districts as have no correspondents at present?