

की हो तो दूसरी बातें पूरी करने पर ये लाइनमैन बातें होने के पात्र भी हो जाते हैं।

(ड) नियमित कर्मचारी के तौर पर खपाए जाने के समय इन्हें, जितने दिन इन्होंने दैनिक मजदूर के तौर पर काम किया हो, उतने दिनों तक की आयु में छूट दे दी जाती है बशर्ते कि इन्होंने 6 महीने या इससे भी अधिक समय तक एक मुश्त सेवा की हो।

Export of Aluminium

1343. SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state the quantity of aluminium exported likely to be exported during 1975-76 and 1976-77?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): About twenty thousand tonnes have already been cleared for exports for the period ending 31-12-1976, and are likely to be fully contracted for shortly.

Deposits under Telephone Communications Scheme

1344. SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme of deposits with application for telephone connections has netted more than Rs. 50 crores to the Ministry; and

(b) if so, the facts of the deposits obtained from each State?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The amounts of deposits collected in different Telecom. Circles and Telephone Districts are given in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10530/76.]

New Agreement between U.K. and U.S.A. on Diego Garcia Base

1345. DR. RANEN SEN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether recently Britain and U.S.A. have signed a new agreement on expansion of an aero-naval base in Diego Garcia island; and

(b) if so, whether Government of India have protested against this to British and American authorities?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government have seen the Agreement signed by the Governments of United States and the U.K. on February 25, 1976 for the expansion of the existing facilities at Diego Garcia.

(b) While the views of the Government of India on the Diego Garcia base are well-known to the international community, including the Governments of the United States and the United Kingdom, the Government of India does not look upon Diego Garcia as a bilateral problem between the Governments of India, on one hand, and the Government of the United States and or the United Kingdom, on the other. The Government of India has not, therefore, lodged any protest with either of the Governments.

Foreign Ports Prefer Container Vessels

1346. DR. RANEN SEN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether foreign ports prefer container vessels for loading and unloading of ships;

(b) whether Indian ships have not developed containerisation; and

(c) if so, steps taken to remove this defect of the Indian ships?