

Sainik School, Bhubaneswar

76. **Shri Chintamani Panigrahi:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that out of Fifteen Office Assistants in the Sainik School at Bhubaneswar, ten are from Kerala;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether vacancies had been notified to the Employment Exchange or advertised in local newspapers; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence (**Shri B. K. Bhagat**): (a) to (d). The information required by the hon. Member is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

Pakistani Army

77. **Shri F. Parthasarathy:**
Shri E. D. Reddy:
Shri Siddheshwar Prasad:
Shri Shaahi Kanjan:
Shri Sitaram Kesri:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan has increased her army;

(b) if so, to what extent; and

(c) the effective counter measures taken by Govt. in this regard?

The Minister of Defence (**Shri Swaran Singh**): (a) to (c). Since 1965 Pakistan has virtually doubled the strength of its infantry including the so-called Azad Kashmir Battalions. There have also been considerable increases in supporting arms and armour. All these developments have been duly taken note of in our Defence Plans. It would not be in public interest to give details of their plans.

Radio Station at Darbhanga

78. **Shri Shiva Chandra Jha:**
Shri Bhogendra Jha:
Dr. Karni Singh:
Shri Lalit Sen:
Shri K. M. Maibhukar:

Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Government had planned to set up a Radio Station either at Darbhanga or Madhubani in Darbhanga District, Bihar; and

(b) if so, when it will be set up?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (**Shri K. K. Shah**): (a) and (b). The All India Radio Fourth Five Plan provides for the setting up of a radio station at Darbhanga subject to availability of funds, including the foreign exchange component thereof, for this project during the Plan period.

Monopoly of Press in India

79. **Shri S. C. Jha:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been rapid concentration of the ownership of the Press in the hand of a few under the last three Plans; and

(b) if so, the steps taken for putting a stop to this narrowing of the ring in the Press ownership during the Fourth Plan period?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (**Shri K. K. Shah**): (a) and (b). It is not a fact that there has been a rapid increase in the concentration of common ownership of newspapers during the last 3 Plan periods. An examination of common ownership trends indicates that the number of common ownership units which stood at 59 in 1961 rose to 66 in the following two years, but progressively declined to 63, 59 and 57 during the year 1964, 1965 and 1966 respectively. It may, however, be mentioned that one of the functions