

प्रधान मंत्री, अणु शक्ति मंत्री, योजना मंत्री तथा वैदेशिक-कार्य मंत्री (श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी) : (क) जी नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

MASANI COMMITTEE'S REPORT TO LOOK INTO GRIEVANCES OF A.I.R. STAFF ARTISTES

3726. SHRI D. N. PATODIA :

SHRI BEDABRATA
BARUA :

SHRI Y. A. PRASAD :

SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the staff artistes have no representation in the Masani Committee appointed to look into their grievances; and

(b) if so, in what way government propose to consider their cooperation in arriving at a decision about their welfare.

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. K. SHAH) : (a) and (b). No Committee as such has been appointed to look into the grievances of Staff Artistes. But a Study Team consisting of a few officers of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and the Directorate General, All India Radio headed by Miss M. Masani, Deputy Director General (Inspection) has been set up for the purpose of examining the present staff structure of All India Radio and to suggest changes and improvements. This wide scope of reference would also include the position of Staff Artistes, regular Programme Staff, etc. While, therefore, there is no need to give an exclusive representation to the Staff Artistes on this Study Team, the latter has been advised to hold discussions with the Associations of Staff Artistes as well as regular Programme Staff, on matters of relevant interests to their constituents.

PROGRAMME OF A.I.R. CALCUTTA

3727. SHRI D. N. PATODIA :

SHRI BEDABRATA
BARUA :

SHRI Y. A. PRASAD :

SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the programmes broadcast from the All India Radio, Calcutta are not audible in the northern parts of India; and

(b) if so, whether any steps have been taken to instal a more powerful transmitter at Calcutta ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. K. SHAH) : (a) The Calcutta Station of All India Radio, like any other regional centre, is expected to serve only the listeners within the State and to a limited extent, in the neighbouring areas of the adjoining States. At this stage of development it has not been possible to cater to the needs of listeners living outside their own linguistic regions.

(b) Two powerful medium wave transmitters are already being installed at Calcutta. One of these is intended to improve the service for the border areas of West Bengal in the East and beyond. The other very powerful transmitter is intended primarily to provide a night time service to countries in South East Asia and to the countries on the Northern Borders of India, even though it could be heard over the greater part of the country at night time.

IMPORT OF PLANTS

3728. SHRI D. N. PATODIA :

SHRI BEDABRATA
BARUA :

SHRI Y. A. PRASAD :

SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the total amount in foreign exchange spent annually for