

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b). The Administrative Reforms Commission has set up a Working Group to examine the administrative structure and the working procedures of the Posts and Telegraphs Department. This Working Group has been asked to examine the desirability of constituting a corporation for the P&T Department. It will, no doubt, be taking note of the proposals for re-organisation of the British Post Office.

(c) No. The Working Group was required to submit its report by December, 1967 but it is understood that the work will take a little more time.

(d) The matter will be examined further on receipt of report of the Working Group.

REPATRIATES FROM CEYLON

268. SHRI MARANDI :
SHRI ESWARA REDDY :
SHRI SRINIBAS MISRA :
SHRI P. K. DEO :
SHRI YAJNA DATT SHARMA :
SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that repatriates from Ceylon have started coming into India;

(b) if so, the number of those who have come so far;

(c) the steps which have been taken by Government to resettle these repatriates;

(d) the names of States in which they will be settled; and

(e) the total amount to be spent over their resettlement ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI L. N. MISHRA) : (a) and (b). Regular repatriation under the Indo-Ceylon Agreement 1964 has not yet commenced. 10,288 Indians have however, been granted Indian citizenship by the High Commission in Ceylon and 2,538 out of these have already come to India up to 31-3-1967.

(c) A statement showing the steps taken and the proposals under consideration for the resettlement of repatriates returning to India under the Indo-Ceylon Agreement, 1964 is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1521/67].

(d) The resettlement of repatriates from Ceylon is being treated as a 'national problem' and all State governments have been requested to extend their cooperation for their resettlement.

(e) It is not possible to estimate the cost of the rehabilitation of repatriates from Ceylon at this stage because the planning and formulation of resettlement programmes has not yet been completed.

THEFT OF FOODGRAINS FROM CALCUTTA PORT

269. SHRI MARANDI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the C.B.I. has investigated that 70 to 75 tonnes of rice and wheat are almost daily stolen from the Calcutta port;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to check this theft;

(c) whether any officials have been found guilty;

(d) if so, the action taken against those held responsible; and

(e) whether it is also a fact that the stolen rice is being sent to China and Nepal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e). Do not arise.

INDIAN TELEPHONE INDUSTRIES

270. SHRI MARANDI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that India has the highly competitive international market for telephone equipment ;