

Sanskrit Manuscript in Russia

3776. Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 204 on the 9th September, 1964 and state:

(a) whether Soviet specialists have completed the restoration of the Sanskrit inscription found in Turkmenia;

(b) whether it has been deciphered and, if so, the contents thereof;

(c) whether the findings of the investigations have been collected by the Government of India; and

(d) whether his attention has been drawn to the U.N.I. reports of the Soviet Embassy release that what has been found is a palm leaf manuscript hidden in a vase and not inscription, on a vase?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Agreement with the Standard Telephone and Cable Co., London

3777. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government entered into an agreement with the Standard Telephone and Cable Company of London in 1949 for the supply of cables to India which is valid up to 1969;

(b) whether India is losing 56 lakhs a year and will be at a loss of Rs. 11 crores when the agreement will expire; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Department of Parliamentary Affairs and Communications (Shri Jaganatha Rao): (a) Yes.

(b) No. In respect of order placed upto 1957 the prices quoted by ST&C were generally cheaper than those offered by other firms against open 1567(Ai) LSD—5.

tenders and taking these orders as a whole there had been no excess payment to the firm during this period. No orders were placed on the firm during 1958-60. During 1961-63 in respect of orders placed an extra sum of Rs. 52.22 lakhs had to be paid more than the nearest competitive offer. No order has been placed on the firm after 1963.

(c) Under the provisions of the Agreement 25 per cent of the imports of Government's requirements of the products within the field of the Agreement shall have to be purchased from ST&C at the same price as are acceptable to the British Post Office plus 2½ per cent. Certain items in the Agreement have since been revised. According to this revision, the price to be paid for any purchases of dry core cables from 1st December 1962 will be subject to a reduction of 10 per cent below former agreement prices.

देवनागरी लिपि में तार

3778. श्री जगदेव सिंह सिद्धान्ती : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पिछले तीन महीनों में कितने तार, सफ़िल-वार, देवनागरी लिपि में भेजे गये ; और

(ख) उक्त अवधि से पहले के तीन महीनों में कितने तार, सफ़िल-वार, भेजे गये ?

संसद-कार्य-विभाग तथा संचार विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जगन्नाथ राव) : (क) तथा (ख) सूचना इकट्ठी की जा रही है और इसे यथा समय लोक-सभा पटल पर रख दिया जाएगा ।

प्रामाणिक पाठ्य पुस्तकों का अनुवाद

3779. श्री जगदेव सिंह सिद्धान्ती : क्या शिक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) विश्वविद्यालय स्तर की प्रामाणिक