

Labour in Mechanical Department depending upon the requirement. Since there was no requirement in Mechanical Department of any Division of Western Railway, the 16 Coal Unloaders were not engaged. Aggrieved, 7 out of these 16 Coal Unloaders approached Central Administrative Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi, for their absorption. The Central Administrative Tribunal, New Delhi in their judgement dated 08.12.1998 directed the Railways to continue the efforts to engage the applicants in any of the Division of Western Railway as per the earlier order dated 16.07.1992, i.e. as Casual Labour.

(c) The 16 Coal Unloaders have not been appointed on permanent basis because the Court's directive is not for permanent absorption but for engaging them as casual Labour on any Division of Western Railway, whenever such opportunity becomes available. However, it is not possible to engage them at present, as there is a total ban on engagement of Casual Labour.

Job Replacement in Beedi Sector

3371. SHRI SATNAM SINGH KAINTH :
SHRI AMAN KUMAR NAGRA :
SHRI M. RAJIAH :
DR. SANJAY SINH :
SHRI S. SUDHAKAR REDDY :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the World's largest Tobacco Multinational namely M/s. Philip Morris has applied for entry to produce cigarettes to tap the beedi sector;

(b) whether the giant MNC Philip Morris approached the Government on job replacement plans in the beedi sector;

(c) whether the Director General of Labour has discussed this issue with Philip Morris of USA; and

(d) if so, the details of such talks?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) M/s. FTR Holdings SA, Switzerland, a subsidiary of M/s. Philip Morris Companies Inc., have submitted a proposal for foreign investment for setting up a 100% subsidiary to establish a Research and Technical Services Centre to implement programmes with farmers to improve tobacco leaves quality and yield, inclusive of

flue cured Virginia, burley and oriental types, etc. Their proposal does not contain any reference to beedi sector. As such, question of job replacement plans in beedi sector does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Programme on J & K

3372. SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH RAJUKHEDI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have sanctioned Rs. 10 crores to Doordarshan to prepare a programme on Jammu and Kashmir during the current year;

(b) if so, whether the Government have reviewed the utilisation of amount already given to Doordarshan for the said purpose;

(c) if so, the details and outcome thereof;

(d) the programmes prepared by Doordarshan on Jammu and Kashmir during the last three years; and

(e) the date on which these programmes were telecast indicating the names of producers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) On the recommendations of the Core Group of Secretaries on Media, an additional special amount of Rs.14.66 crores (Rs. 10.00 crores for the current financial year 1998-99 and Rs. 4.66 crores for meeting the outstanding liabilities) has been approved by Ministry of Finance for production of special programmes by Prasar Bharati (Doordarshan and AIR) in various formats on developmental, cultural, historical and other aspects of life in Jammu & Kashmir.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Further funds for the purpose are sanctioned only after it has been ascertained that the funds sanctioned earlier were utilised for the bonafide purpose.

(d) and (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.