

consideration of Government for giving recognition to the Hindi Journalism course conducted by Bhartiya Jan Sanchar Sansthan, New Delhi;

(b) if so, the time by which recognition is likely to be given to this course; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) No proposal has so far been received by Government from the IIMC for recognition of the Hindi Journalism course.

(b) and (c). does not arise.

[English]

Notification No. S.O. 655 (E)

7462. **SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Notification NO. S.O. 655 (E) dated the 18th August, 1981 was issued by the Ministry of Industry barring all steel-re-rolling units which do not possess Carry-on-Business (COB) or Industrial Licence from drawing supplies of re-rollable steel materials from the main producers including the SAIL;

(b) if so, whether the notification is still in force;

(c) whether the notification has been over-ruled or amended if so, the date of the over-ruling or amendment to the notification and the nature of the amendment of the notification;

(d) the authority which has over-ruled or amended the notification; and

(e) whether over-ruling or amending authority was competent to over-rule or amend the notification on the date of over-ruling or amendment?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) No, Sir. The Notification No. S.O. 655 (E), dated the 18th August, 1981 issued by the Ministry of Industry (Deptt. of Industrial Development) deals with the licensing aspect only. There is no specific stipulation about supplies of raw materials including re-rollable steel materials.

(b) and (c). The said Notification was superseded by the issue of another Notification dated 30th June, 1988 of the Ministry of Industry (Deptt. of Industrial Development) which does not alter the condition stipulated for licensing etc.

(d) The Ministry of Industry (Deptt. of Industrial Development).

(e) Yes, Sir.

Enquiry into Complaints of Persecution and Suppression of Newspaper "Desh Katha"

7463. **SHRI SUDHIR GIRI:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Press Council of India constituted a special enquiry Committee to probe into the complaint of persecution and suppression of the newspaper "Desh Katha" by Government of Tripura;

(b) whether the Enquiry Committee has probed into the matter; and

(c) if so, the details of the findings?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION

AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As per statement annexed.

STATEMENT

The following are the finding of the Enquiry Committee and subsequently of the Press Council, into the complaint referred to in part (a) of the question.

- (i) Regarding the charge of disconnection and non-supply of electric power from the Diesel Generating (DG) sets of *Deshar Katha* for 5 months w.e.f. 12.4.1988.

Though Council did not find any conclusive evidence to show that the authorities disconnected the electric supply to *Deshar Katha* deliberately, the Council found that there was no convincing explanation as to why it took as long as five months for the repair of DG sets, resulting in prolonged denial of the requisite power supply to the paper from this source.

- (ii) Regarding charge of threatening the Complainant not to report certain incidents levelled against the Home Minister, Shri Samir Barman.

It is the Council's finding that the charge has not been proved, beyond doubt.

- (iii) Regarding the counter-allegation of irresponsible conduct of *Deshar Katha*.

The Council was of the view that the newspaper did not act responsibly, in as much as, it did not publish the contradiction sent to it by the State Government in response to a news item published by the

paper maligning para military forces.

- (iv) Regarding allegations of acts of violence, assault or intimidation etc. against the *Deshar Katha*.

According to the Council, although the active connivance of the State Government in these obnoxious acts of workers belonging to the ruling party, was hard to establish conclusively, evidence both physical and circumstantial, does indicate that the attitude of the political executives against the news-papers was one of studied indifference, tinged with political hostility.

However, on assurance by the Chief Secretary to the State Government, the Press Council hopes that the authorities will ensure uninterrupted power supply to the newspaper and take effective steps to prevent and foil any illegal or criminal acts of violence calculated to prevent or interrupt its publication or free circulation.

The Council also expected of the newspaper that in future, it would publish any contradiction or reply or rejoinder sent by a person or institution feeling aggrieved by a publication, promptly and with due prominence.

As regards matters relating to the stoppage of advertisement and stoppage of subscription to copies of the complainant's newspaper by the State Government, the Council did not go into these complaints as these are sub-judice before the Guwahati High Court.

[*Translation*]

Financial Assistance to Madhya Pradesh

7464. SHRISATYNARAYANJATIYA:
SHRI RAGHAVJI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: