

special agency for disposing of the tax matters pertaining to writs and appeals in Law courts;

(b) if so, the broad details thereof;

(c) if not, at which stage the consideration of such a proposal is pending?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Y. B. Chavan): (a) to (c). There is no such proposal yet before the Government. Owing to constant increase in the litigation and the complexity of tax laws, the former Law Minister, Shri G. S. Pathak, had an idea of having a Central Tax Court, which would decide taxation cases especially under the Central Acts.

Allocation for Education in the Fourth Plan

*283. Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state-

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the statement made by Dr V. K. R. V. Rao, that reduced allocations for education in the States' Fourth Five Year Plan as approved by the Planning Commission will adversely affect the programmes of qualitative improvement particularly at the primary and secondary levels;

(b) whether Dr. Rao had further suggested that by cutting down of strategic programmes, the objective of linking education with production would not be achieved; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

The Minister of Education (Dr. Triguna Sen): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) We have represented to the Planning Commission that the original allocation of Rs. 1210 crores for education should not be reduced. The decision of the Planning Commission on the statement of Dr. Rao is also awaited.

Telegraph/Telephone Services

*284 Shri Surendra Kumar Tapariah
Shri D. S. Patil:
Shri A. V. Patil:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the public discontent in regard to (i) the operational inefficiency, both mechanical and manual, of the telephone, telegraph and the telecommunication services in the country and (ii) the discourteous attending of the operating staff, particularly Trunk operators; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to improve the standard of operation of these services?

The Minister of State in the Departments of Parliamentary Affairs and Communications (Shri I. K. Gujral):

(a) (i) Complaints are received but these are not many compared to the magnitude of the services rendered.

(ii) Such complaints are very few

(b) Besides investigation and remedial action for each individual case of complaint attention is given to training and supervision of staff as well as maintenance of line and equipment. With the introduction of advanced technology in local and trunk communication service the standard of service is expected to improve progressively.

Recommendations of Education Commission Report

*285. Shri Vasudevan Nair:
Shri C. Jaganathan:
Shri P. C. Adichan:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether any comments had been asked for from the State Governments on the Education Commission Report;

(b) if so, the number of State Governments which have offered their comments; and

(c) the steps being taken to implement the recommendations?

The Minister of Education (Dr. Triguna Sen): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) So far, comments have been received from the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Kerala, Madras, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh. The comments of the other State Governments are awaited.

(c) A programme for implementing the Report of the Education Commission has been drawn up. The Education Minister would be paying visits to several States for individual discussions with State Governments. A Conference of State Education Ministers is being convened on April 28 and 29. A Committee of Members of Parliament is being set up to consider the Report and a discussion thereon will be raised in the next session of Parliament. In the light of these discussions, it is proposed to take decisions on the major recommendations of the Commission and to draw up a programme for immediate action. To the extent financial resources permit, steps to implement this programme will be taken from 1967-68 itself.

Urdu as second Language in Bihar

*286. **Shri K. R. Ganesh:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bihar Government have made a policy statement making Urdu as the second official language of the State; and

(b) whether there is a proposal under the consideration of Government to ask other State Governments to make Urdu as their second official language, where there is a substantial Urdu speaking population?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Vidya Charan Shukla): (a) In his Address

to the new State Legislature on 19th March, 1967, the Bihar Governor stated that recognition would be given to Urdu as the second official language in the State.

(b) No Sir.

Booking of Telegrams at Jaipur.

*287. **Dr. Karni Singh:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that telegrams tendered by the Opposition Leaders in Rajasthan at Jaipur on the 8th March, 1967 were not booked;

(b) whether Government are aware that such important telegrams could be transmitted only with the assistance rendered by the authorities in Delhi on that day; and

(c) the reasons for the restrictions so imposed by the Posts and Telegraphs Department causing sudden inconvenience to the public?

The Minister of State in the Departments of Parliamentary Affairs and Communications (Shri I. K. Gujaral): (a) and (b). No Sir.

(c) Transmission of some telegrams after booking was however, withheld on the 9th March, 67 under section 5(i) (b) of the Indian Telegraph Act.

Pandey Commission Report on Bastar Incidents

*288. **Shri Nath Pal:**
Shri Hukam Chand
Kachhavaia:
Shri Ram Singh:
Shri Narain Sarup Sharma:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a copy of the Pandey Commission Report on the incidents of Jagdalpur (Bastar);

(b) whether Government have studied the Report; and

(c) whether a copy of the Report will be laid on the Table of the House?