

of equipment for the Ground Station is still under consideration.

(b) It is proposed to set up the Ground Station by the end of 1968.

(c) The present indications are that about 20 countries, including India, will operate with the Indian Ocean Satellite as soon as they are technically equipped to do so. The names of these countries are U.K., Germany, Italy, Spain, Nigeria, East Africa, Zambia, Baharain, Kuwait, Lebanon, Hongkong, Ceylon, Thailand, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Australia.

(d) The existing system will continue to be used for communications with countries which will not have switched over to satellite working, and any equipment becoming surplus will be diverted for other internal requirements.

National Research Laboratories

*1408. Shri Jyotirmoy Basu:
Shri K. Ramani:
Shri E. K. Nayanar:
Shri Mohammad Ismail:
Shri N. R. Patil:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Research Laboratories under the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research have sought greater measure of autonomy;

(b) the steps Government propose to take to remove the discontentment amongst the scientists and research scholars employed in these laboratories;

(c) what are the recommendations of the Ramaswamy Mudaliar Review Committee on Council of Scientific and Industrial Research; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to ensure that the Laboratories are able to function independently within the general policies of the Council?

The Minister of Education (Dr. Triguna Sen): (a) Yes, Sir. A few Directors of the National Laboratories/Institutes have sent proposals for greater measure of autonomy for consideration at the next Directors' Conference.

(b) the Government is committed to follow the steps outlined in the Scientific Policy Resolution of 4th March, 1958.

(c) The recommendations of the Ramaswami Mudaliar Reviewing Committee on C.S.I.R. has been published in the form of a Report, a copy of which is available in the Library of Parliament.

(d) The functions and powers of the Governing Body of the C.S.I.R. have been considerably delegated to the Executive Councils of the National Laboratories/Institutes so that they may manage the affairs of the laboratories within the allotted budget provisions. Besides, the Directors/Heads of the National Laboratories/Institutes have been delegated wide financial and administrative powers. As far as research is concerned, they have the fullest scope operationally.

मध्य प्रदेश में शिक्षा का स्तर

*1409. श्री एं० च० दीक्षित : क्या शिक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि मध्य प्रदेश अन्य राज्यों की तुलना में शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में सब से अधिक पिछड़ा हुआ राज्य है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार इस राज्य को शिक्षा के मामले में अन्य राज्यों के समान लाने के लिये कोई योजना तैयार कर रही है ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार का क्या कार्यवाही करने का विचार है ?

शिक्षा मंत्रालय में राज्य-मन्त्री (श्री भागवत झा आजाद) : (क) मध्यप्रदेश में तीसरी आयोजना के अन्त तक 6-10, 11-13 तथा 14-16 आयु वर्ग के नामांकन की प्रतिशतता अनुमानतः 54, 23 और 11 थी जब कि अखिल भारतीय प्रतिशतता क्रमशः 79, 32 और 18 के लगभग थी। 1961 की जन गणना के अनुसार जब कि देश की साक्षर प्रतिशतता 23.7 थी तो मध्य प्रदेश के लिए यह संख्या केवल 16.9 थी। मध्य प्रदेश स्पष्टतः देश में शिक्षा की दृष्टि से पिछड़ हुए राज्यों में से एक है।

(ख) जी नहीं। मध्य प्रदेश सरकार की सहायता के लिए कोई विशिष्ट योजना तैयार नहीं की जा रही है।

(ग) और (घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Appointment of Judges in High Courts

*1410. **Shri Sri Chand Goel:**
Shri Jagannath Rao Joshi:
Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:
Shri Bharat Singh Chauhan:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Law Commission has observed that in the appointments of the High Court Judges, considerations other than merit influenced the appointments;

(b) if so, the steps that Government have taken to improve the state of affairs; and

(c) whether the Law Commission had also recommended that Bar should be the main recruiting ground for the appointment of High Court Judges; if so, the steps taken by Government to implement the above recommendation?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Y. B. Chavan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government do not agree with this observation of the Law Commission and there is no reason

for any feeling in any quarter about these appointments having been influenced by extraneous considerations.

(c) Government have not accepted this recommendation. Appointments to the High Courts are made solely on considerations of merit.

Commissions and Committees

6673. **Shri A. B. Vajpayee:**
Shri Kanwar Lal Gupta:
Shri Yajna Datt Sharma:
Shri R. S. Vidyarthi:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Commissions/Committees set up by Government during the last 5 years;

(b) the number of such Commissions Committees whose recommendations were not accepted by Government; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Vidya Charan Shukla): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Telephone Exchange in Gujarat

6674. **Shri Narendra Singh Mahida:**
 Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of automatic telephone exchanges proposed to be opened in the Gujarat circle of the Posts and Telegraphs Department during the remaining period of the Fourth Five Year Plan;

(b) the number of automatic exchanges opened in the State since the new State came into being; and

(c) the number of telephone connections served by them and those to be served by the new ones?

The Minister of State in the Departments of Parliamentary Affairs and