

compulsorily 3 hours irrespective of the workload.

11. Abolition of orders lies for Sub Divisional IPOs and paying a lumpsum amount in lieu thereof.
12. Abolition of the cadre of mail overseer.
13. Introduction of a cadre of Assistant Sub Division Inspector.
14. Evolving time test for assessing work hour in each B.O. on the same principle as it is done for Departmental Offices.
15. Minimum service for eligibility to receive gratuity to be reduced to 5 years from 15 years.
16. The amount of gratuity to be paid at the rate of half months emoluments for every completed year of service.
17. Maximum age limit for recruitment of EDA Agents to be 28 years and minimum educational qualification to be 8th Standard.

#### Activities of Kashmir American Council

2316. SHRI SURESH KALMA-DI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of recent press report stating that the Kashmir American Council, an organisation of expatriates, has hired a high powered lobbying firm in America to create support for self-determination for the people of Kashmir; and

(b) what is the reaction of Government and the action Government propose to take to counter the propaganda by this firm ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJ-

RAL): (a) The Government has seen reports to this effect.

(b) The Government has made known its views to the US Government and influential members of the US Congress.

#### Loading and unloading at Kandla Port

2317. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of ships waiting for getting berth at Kandla Port for the last two months for unloading; and

(b) how many of them are for export only ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) There is no ship waiting for getting a berth at Kandla Port since the last two months.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Experience of friendly countries in facing terrorism

2318. SHRI RAJ MOHAN GANDHI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have obtained from friendly countries their experiences in facing terrorism, linked with the drug traffic;

(b) if so, whether any useful knowledge has been acquired; and

(c) if the reply to part (a) above be in the negative, whether Govt. propose to contact the friendly countries in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME

**AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY):** (a) to (c) Exchange of information and experience on the subject is primarily organised through the forum of the Interpol (International Criminal Police Organisation) which circulates these to member countries and also holds conferences and seminars for international cooperation in the field. Useful and sensitive information of both strategic and operational nature are received through the above arrangements and utilised by the Indian enforcement agencies.

**Purchase of cordless telephones from ITI**

**2319. SHRI V. NARAYANA-SAMY:**

**SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have ordered for purchase of cordless telephones from Indian Telephone Industries, at higher prices, ignoring the existing capacity of the private manufacturers in the country, who offered to sell cordless telephones to Government at a lesser price; and

(b) if so, the reasons for which Government have not gone for a competitive rate as far as purchase of cordless telephones are concerned?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANE-SHWAR MISHRA):** (a) No orders have been placed on ITI for cordless telephones.

(b) Does not arise.

**Lapse of Indian Embassy in USA regarding Amanullah Khan**

**2320. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA:** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Embassy in the USA did not have any information about the anti-India activities carried out by JKLF Chief Amanullah Khan overtly from the American soil, until wide coverage of the same was given in the Press;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Embassy officials were seeking his detention pending extradition before the American Courts even after he had left the USA in full public view by a KLM flight from New York; and

(c) whether Government propose to take any action to raise the efficiency of our Embassies abroad to avoid recurrence of such lapses?

**THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL):** (a) The Indian Embassy has no means of monitoring the presence of foreign nationals in American territory. The presence of Amanullah Khan only came to be known as a result of his press conference in New York on 10th April.

(b) The Embassy continued to seek the extradition of Amanullah Khan until receiving official confirmation that he had fled from the U. S.

(c) The Embassy acted promptly and efficiently in pursuing this matter but could not be expected to prevent developments which were beyond its control. Therefore, the question of taking any action in this regard does not arise.