

tended his Press Conference in Calcutta had made gestures amounting to contempt of the Chief dignitary of the State?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI): (a) It is the normal practice for officials to accompany the Prime Minister on his official tours.

(b) The Prime Minister visited West Bengal from 18th September, 1986 to 20th September, 1986 and Karnataka on 24th October, 1986 and earlier on 12th April, 1986.

(c) At the press conference held in Calcutta on 18th September, 1986, no official showed any disrespect to any dignitary.

Article 249 of the Constitution for creating Border Security Belt

1586. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government has decided not to evoke Article 249 of the Constitution for creating a border security belt for the time being;

(b)- if so, whether adequate security measures have been taken to guard the borders of the country from infiltration by terrorists and other undesirable persons; and

(c) what are the details of the measures that have been taken to safeguard the borders of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Legislation to be undertaken in pursuance of the Resolution is under examination.

(c) Constant vigil is maintained by BSF and other security agencies at the borders for taking appropriate action.

Involvement of State Agencies to Check Environmental Pollution

1587. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are being taken by Government for large scale involvement of State agencies in the protection of environment; and

(b) whether a detailed industrial survey of the areas where industries are located most has been made so as to ascertain the level of pollution and take effective measures to remove environmental pollution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) The steps taken include:

(1) Catalytic financial assistance for strengthening of the State level agencies for environmental protection;

(2) Assistance for undertaking specific programmes on conservation, impact assessment, pollution monitoring and environmental awareness; and

(3) Training of personnel.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Issue of Commemorative Stamps Lokopriya Gopinath Bordoloi

1588. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what criteria is adopted by Government in issuing commemorative stamps;

(b) what is the total number of such stamps issued till October, 1986 'in memory of the great souls of Assam; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to issue a commemorative stamp on Lokopriya Gopinath Bordoloi, the first Chief Minister of Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI
PSANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a)' The

Government is guided by a number of considerations while deciding about the issue of Commemorative/ Special, Postage Stamps. A set of guidelines have been laid down for the purpose. As per Statement {See below}. Proposals are also placed before the Philatelic Advisory Committee which functions in the Department to advise the Government on such' matters. The recommendations of the Committee, as also the (Guidelines, are kept in view while deciding about the issue of stamps.

(b) The Guidelines prescribed that the personality should be of a national Or international importance. As such, it is difficult¹ to classify them by region or State. However, it is estimated that stamps on psix personalities from Assam have been issued since 1947.

(c) No proposal is presently under consideration in this regard. However, now this question will be treated as proposal and placed before the Philatelic Advisory Committee.

Guidelines for the Issue of Commemorative\Special Postage Stamp from 1981 onwards

1. Proposals may be taken up well in advance, say about a year before the proposed date of issue, to enable proper examination, designing, approval, announcement, printing and supply of stamps as part of a planned programme.

2. A stamp commemorative a living personality may not ordinarily be issued.

3. Not more than one stamp on a personality may be issued, save in exceptional cases. In such cases, the proposals may be considered by the Government on the recommendations of the Philatelic Advisory Committee.

4. The personalities on whom commemorative stamps are issued may be of national or international importance and the occasion should be ordinarily birth centenary or 10th/25th/100th death anniversary. Commemorative stamps may be issued on the first death anniversary of the personality, only in very exceptional cases,

5. No stamp may ordinarily be issued commemorating an institution unless the occasion is its centenary.

6. Events of very important national or international character may only b* considered for issue of stamps, occasions of lesser importance may be commemorated by providing special cancellation.

7. Commemorative/special stamps issued in a year may be about 40 and of these stamps on eminent personalities may be about 10.

T. V. Centres in the Country

1589. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state what is the Statewise break-up of the number of T. V. Centres, transmission stations and the areas covered by television in the country till October, 1986, separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): The requisite information is given in the enclosed statement.