

coaxial cable system carrying 1200 channels and a TV channel was inaugurated on Sept. 25.

(12) A Pakistan Health delegation led by Lt. Gen. Mohyuddin, Chairman of Pakistan Medical Research Council visited India under the Joint Commission framework from 15 to 18 October. During the talks, possible areas of cooperation for future collaboration were delineated including exchange of information in medical education, research, training etc. collaboration in communicable diseases control; research, collaboration and exchange of information in the field of family planning and welfare, etc.

(13) Dr. Mahbubul Haq, Pakistan's Minister for Finance, Planning and Economic Coordination paid a two day visit to India from 14 to 16 November. He was accompanied by the Secretary General; Economic Affairs Mr. Ejaz Naik, Commerce Secretary Mr. Mukhtar Masood and Additional Secretary (Planning) Dr. M.S. Jilani.

#### Withdrawal of relaxation of educational Qualifications for SC/ST

1933. SHRI RAM NARESH KUSHAWAHA : will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have recently withdrawn the relaxation of educational qualification and educational standards in the case of SC/ST candidates in the recruitment rules ; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for withdrawing the relaxation and what is its likely impact on the career prospects of SC/ST candidates ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) :

(a) No, Sir, Where a minimum educational qualification is prescribed in the Recruitment Rules, there are at present no Government instructions enabling relaxation of the minimum educational qualification in the case of SC/ST candidates. As a corollary, wherever a minimum standard is prescribed as part of the minimum educational qualification, it would apply uniformly and there is no provision for relaxing the prescribed minimum standard in the case of SC/ST candidates.

(b) Since no relaxation has been withdrawn, there will be no impact on the career prospects of SC/ST candidates.

#### चीनी मिलों के कारण प्रदूषण

1934. श्री रामचन्द्र विकल : क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) देश में उन चीनी मिलों की संख्या कितनी है जो कि ऐसे नुकसानदेह अवशिष्ट पदार्थ छोड़ती है जिससे मिल के इर्द गिर्द के क्षेत्रों में प्रदूषण फैलता है ;

(ख) सरकार ने इस प्रदूषण पर नियंत्रण के लिए क्या कदम उठाए हैं ;

(ग) क्या कुछ चीनी मिलों को प्रदूषण निवारण बोर्ड के आदेशों/अनुदेशों का उल्लंघन करने का दोषी पाया गया है; और

(घ) यदि हा, तो उनके नाम क्या हैं और उनके विरुद्ध क्या कार्यवाही बी गई है ?

पर्यावरण और जन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जे.ए. आर. अन्सारी) :

(क) बड़े तथा मझोले क्षेत्र में चीनी की 274 मिलें हैं, जिनमें से 118 इकाइयों ने