

raising your voice? Were you ever a Member of this House? You were never a Member of this House. (*7n-terruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think it was the hon. Speaker in the other House who said—I hope the report in the newspaper was correct—that if the hon. Members of that House—I am not saying anything about it except what is reported—wanted to have a wrestling match, he will arrange it. I think I am of the same opinion for Members of this House also. I think at the moment I have ruled that I shall discuss it with my Vice-Chairman and see. Now I think we will pass on to the next question.

**श्री रामेश्वर सिंह : श्रीमन, हमारे
सवाल का जवाब . . .**

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can repeat that question in the next week and we will get an answer. (*Interruptions*) Now we will pass on to the next question.

*142. [*The questioners. (Shri S. Kumaran and Shri Bhupesh Gupta) were absent. For answer vide col. 36 infra*].

**Daily Wares employees in the
Telephone Exchange at Pusa Road**

*143. SHRI ROSHAN LAL; Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of employees engaged on daily wages in different categories in the Telephone Exchange, Pusa Road, New Delhi together with the period of service in each case;

(b) what is the criteria for regularising the services of the employees who are working on daily wages; and

(c) whether Government have received any representation in this regard; if not, what action Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI C. M. STEPHEN):

(a) Casual Mazdoors	. 233
Casual Carpenters	. 4
Casual Wiremen	. 5

These casual workers have been employed for periods ranging from 24 months to about 10 years. The employment is not of regular nature and as such the periods only indicate the total duration including the broken periods. Particulars regarding each case are being collected.

(b) The daily wage mazdoors become eligible for recruitment against regular Group 'D' posts if they have worked for 245 days per year in two consecutive years with the Department. For recruitment against the post of Lineman, the daily wage mazdoor should have worked in a construction party for a period of 365 days. These are only the eligibility conditions.

Actual recruitment is based on the availability of posts.

(c) Individual representations are being received and are dealt with on their merits and the candidates are replied suitably.

**Charter of demands of students of the
National School of Drama**

*144. SHRI SYED SHAHEDULLAH:
SHRIMATI KANAK MUK-
HERJEE:!

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the students union of the National School of Drama presented a memorandum in support of its charter of demands to him on the 7th April, 1980;

The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shrimati¹ Kanak Mukherjee.

(b) if so, what are the details of their demands; and

(c) what steps Government have taken or propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, AND HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARA-NAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The demands relate to recognition of courses, provision of independent campus, better hostel facilities, Railway concessions, subsidy for the Mess, vehicle for the School, increase in scholarship and book allowance, increase in School budget, introduction of drama departments in the Universities, construction of auditoriums in the different parts of the country, exemption of drama performances from taxes and theatre halls for performances at nominal rent.

(c) The National School of Drama is an autonomous organisation. The demands of the students cover a wide range. The demands have been referred to the authorities concerned, such as Railways and University Grants Commission. Other demands are being examined.

SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: I understand that this National School of Drama, New Delhi, has been established nineteen years ago. For what reason has the Government, not recognised it? Does not the Government think that this institution is helpful in developing India's cultural heritages? What is the particular reason for the Government in not recognising it so long and not paying any heed to the minimum facilities which its students are asking for?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: The Government is very sympathetic towards the institution and perhaps you will know that we are giving Rs. 350/- as scholarship to the students who are given all the minimum

facilities. In no other school—neither engineering school nor medical school—students are getting so much scholarship. Here we are giving scholarship also. So, the hon. Member cannot say that we have no sympathy for them.

SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: My simple question was, what is the reason why the Government have not recognised this institution so long? I am not asking about the money you give them. What is the reason for not giving proper recognition to this institution or giving it the status of a university to enable them to develop India's cultural heritage in proper manner? That is what I have asked. Can the Government give us any definite date by which they will consider the question of giving recognition to this institution?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are you going to recognise this institution as you recognise others? That is the only question.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: This institution is recognised, Sir. The question is that this is a school by itself? The nature of it is such that it has either to be recognised by the Central Board of Secondary Education or the University Grants Commission. The Government is pursuing the matter.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Who is going to recognise it?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: We are pursuing. This school is of a different character. It is neither a school nor a college nor any other school which can be recognised. The Government is pursuing in the matter of its recognition with appropriate authorities.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Hegde.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEDGE: Sir, one of the demands of the students of the National School of Drama relates to the provision of

adequate accommodation for the campus for the students. May I know from the honourable Minister whether the Government has examined the actual requirement of additional area which they have asked for and, if so, what steps the Government has taken in this regard?

SHRI B. SHANKAR ANAND: Sir, at present, the School is located at the Bahawalpur House and the Girls' Hostel is also located at Bahawalpur House and the Boys' Hostel is located at Hailey Road in a rented building. While we appreciate the need for an independent campus and for a new hostel, due to shortage of accommodation and constraints on resources, the matter has not progressed further. The School has, however, been asked to provide the necessary amenities within these limitations.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: Sir, is it not true that they have requested for . . .

AN HON. MEMBER: How many questions will he put, Sir?

MR CHAIRMAN: No more questions, please.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: This is connected with that, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN; That is all right.

SHRI K. C. PANT: Sir, the Minister says that he is pursuing the matter. With whom is he pursuing the matter? It is a matter for the Government to decide because it does not fall into two categories. (*Interruption?*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is neither fish nor flesh. He says it may be the UGC or the Board of Secondary Education.

SHRI K. C. PANT: Therefore, Sir. it is a matter for the Government to decide. Obviously, it is the penumbra area and there is no clarity. But he says he is pursuing the matter.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He says, he is pursuing the matter.

SHRI K. C. PANT: I want to know whether it is the Government which has to take a decision or somebody else has to take a decision.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think it is the Government.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: The Central Government does not recognise, and the honourable Member should know it.

SHRI K. C. PANT: Then who is to take the decision, Sir? (*Interruptions*). Who has to take the decision? (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN; All right. Now, Question No. 145.

SHRI K. C PANT: Who is to take the decision? It is the UGC or the Government?

MR. CHAIRMAN; Question No. 145. Mr. Gurudev Gupta.

Effect of erosion on Cultivable land

*145. SHRI GURUDEV GUPTA :

SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA:

SHRIMATI HAMIDA HABI-

BULLAH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the acreage of cultivable land in the country affected by erosion;

(b) what is the State-wise break-up of land under erosion; and

{«} what steps Government have taken or propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Gurudev Gupta.