

ermined on the basis of bi-partite negotiations in each State for each plantations crop.

Protection of Casual Labour Employed in Ministries/Public Sector Undertakings

*254. SHRI NRIPATI RANJAN:
CHOUDHURY: SHRI HARSH
DEO
MALAVIYA: DR.
V. P. DUTT:

Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a meeting of the representatives of Ministries and Public Sector Undertakings was recently held to discuss measures for protecting the interests of the casual labour employed by the Public Sector Undertakings or abolishing the casual labour system;

(b) if so, what are main recommendations arrived at the meeting; and

(c) What steps Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI LARANG SAI): (a) to (c) Presumably reference is to the Inter-Ministerial meeting convened by the Ministry of Labour during January, 1978, to review the question of further safeguards in respect of casual workers and to assess the magnitude of the problem. While there is no proposal at present to abolish the system of casual labour as such, the question of further safeguards to be provided in respect of this category of workers is to be considered in the light of the additional information being collected following the discussions during January 1978.

Postal Division for Cuttack

255. SHRI C. P. MAJHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the criterion laid down for opening a new postal division;

(b) whether Government, have received any proposal from the Post Master General, Orissa for opening a new postal division in Cuttack; and

(c) if so, what action Government have taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKH-DEO SAI): (a) Postal Divisions are created on the basis of workload.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Opening of an Indian Consulate in Karachi

*256. SHRI PRAKASH
MEHROTRA: SHRIMATI
HAMIDA

HABIBULLAH: SHRI SAWAISINGH
SISODIA: Will the Minister of
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during his recent visit to Pakistan, he is reported to have stated that the Government of India is prepared to open a consulate office in Karachi;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) What is the reaction of the Government of Pakistan thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): (a) and (b) During my recent visit to Pakistan, I had occasion to see the Visa Office of our Embassy in Islamabad. While I was there, questions were raised by the applicants present regarding Government of India's stand on the opening of a Visa Office in Karachi. I reiterated that the Government of India want to open a Consulate-General in Karachi, in return for a similar facility for the Government of Pakistan in Bombay.

(c) The Government of Pakistan has not agreed to the proposal so far.