

**Deployment of C.R.P. and B.S.F. in the Chikmagalur Parliamentary Constituency**

284. SHRI PRAKASH MEHROTRA:

SHRI SAWAISINGH SISO-DIA:

SHRIMATI HAMIDA HABIBULLAH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the circumstances under which the C.R.P. and B.S.F. were deployed in the Chikmagalur Parliamentary Constituency in the recent bye-election to the Lok Sabha from that constituency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI DHANIK LAL MANDAL): At the request of the Government of Karnataka eleven companies of C.R.P. were made available to assist them during the Parliamentary bye-elections in Chikmagalur Constituency. No B.S.F. was deployed for Chikmagalur bye-elections.

**Election news about Chikmagalur bye-election**

285. SHRI BHIM RAJ:

SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaints regarding the partisan attitude adopted by the AIR in broadcasting election news during the recent Lok Sabha bye-election from the Chikmagalur Parliamentary Constituency;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government have taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI LAL K. ADVANI): (a) to (c) Shri

C. M. Stephen, Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha and Shri A.R. Antulay, M.P., General Secretary, All India Congress Committee had written to Minister of Information and Broadcasting alleging the partisan misuse of the media in connection with the Chikmagalur bye-election. The complaints were looked into and it was found that their assertions were not borne out by facts. The coverage, whether in news bulletins or in features, was not only fair and objective, but also absolutely unbiased.

**Coal mining projects**

286. SHRI SWAMI DINESH CHANDRA:

SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news report which appeared in the 'Economic Times' of the 17th October, 1978 to the effect that all the coal mining projects taken up in 1974 are in jeopardy and are far behind the schedule;

(b) if so, whether Government verified the facts in regard thereto; what are the reasons for this state of affairs; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, what steps Government have taken or propose to take to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The facts of the matter are that in 1974, the following coal projects had been sanctioned by the Government namely Sudamdih, Swang Reorganisation, Nandan, Kusmunda and Bhatgaon. Out of these five projects Nandan and Kusmunda are being implemented on schedule.