

manufacturing of telecommunication and communication equipment is reserved for the public sector; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that M/s. Philips (India) Limited has obtained approval of the Central Government to participate in a joint venture promoted by the West Bengal Government on a 40 per cent equity basis; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) West Bengal Electronic Industrial Development Corporation (a public sector undertaking of the State Government) has floated a new Company called WEBEL Telecommunications Limited, in which Philips (India) Limited are to hold 40 per cent of the equity share capital and West Bengal Electronic Industrial Development Corporation, the remaining 60 per cent. Since Philips (India) Limited have agreed to comply with the instructions issued to them by the Reserve Bank of India under the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 (FERA), to reduce their foreign equity to 40 per cent and as such become an Indian Company under FERA, no foreign collaboration would be involved in the joint venture company M/s WEBEL Telecommunications Limited.

Joint venture of the Engineering Project (India) Ltd. in Kuwait

1355. SHRI HARSH DEO

MALAVIYA:

SHRI HIMMAT SINH:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Engineering Projects (India) Limited is setting up joint ventures in Kuwait

in collaboration with a Kuwaiti company;

(b) if so, what is the value of the share capital of the Engineering Projects (India) Ltd., in the joint ventures and what is the amount payable in foreign exchange; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the Engineering Projects (India) Limited is already having a contract in Kuwait for the construction of a township?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir. A proposal to set up a joint venture company by Engineering Projects (India) Limited (EPI) in Kuwait in collaboration with a Kuwaiti company has been approved by Government.

(b) Of the total equity share capital of 25,000 Kuwaiti Dinars (Rs. 7.5 lakhs), the value of the proposed share capital of EPI will be 10,000 Kuwaiti Dinars (Rs. 3 lakhs). The entire amount will be payable in foreign exchange.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Indian Statistical Service

1356. SHRI N. G. RANGA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Fender List for appointments to the Indian Statistical Service Grade IV was prepared in 1969 on an *ad hoc* basis;

(b) whether it is fact that Government have recently decided to downgrade some posts to Class II and regularise a certain percentage in Class I, Grade IV of the Service;

(c) if so, what is the criterion adopted in selecting persons for appointment to Class I and II posts in the Service; and

(d) whether it is a fact that senior persons who are working since 1969

in Grade IV of the Service are being superseded by those who are junior to them in the Feeder List; if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. D. PATIL): (a) A list was finalised in 1970 in consultation with the Union Public Service Commission for making short term appointments on an *ad hoc* basis in Grade IV posts of the I.S.S. pending filling of such posts on a regular basis.

(b) to (d) Certain proposals for the re-organisation of Grade IV of the Indian Statistical Service, on the recommendations of the Third Central Pay Commission, are under consideration of Government in consultation with Union Public Service Commission. No final decisions have been taken in this regard, as the advice of the Union Public Service Commission is still awaited.

Seniority in the Indian Statistical Service

1357. SHRI N. G. RANGA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the inter-se seniority of the persons appointed to Grade IV of the Indian Statistical Service prepared on an *ad hoc* basis in 1969 at the time of the initial constitution of the Service is being restored while making regular appointments to the Service;

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to correct the anomaly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. D. PATIL): (a) to (c) Initial appointments to all grades of the Indian Statistical Service were made in 1964 and not in 1969. These appointments were based on the merit list drawn up by the Selection Committee set up under the Indian

Statistical Service Rules, 1961, with which the Union Public Service Commission was also associated. All such appointments were made on a regular basis at the time of initial constitution itself. The concerned officers were assigned seniority in the respective grades in accordance with the provisions of the Indian Statistical Service Rules. The question of restoring their seniority does not arise.

Danger Apprehended by Members of Lok Sabha to their Lives

1358. SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of members of the Lok Sabha are apprehending danger to their lives; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether Government have made any security arrangements for them; if so, what is the monthly expenditure Government are incurring on such arrangements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI DHANIK LAL MANDAL): (a) Only one sitting Member of the Lok Sabha has expressed apprehension of danger to his life.

(b) Patrolling has been intensified in the area of his residence and a uniformed Sentry has been provided for guard duties at his residence since 5th December 1977. The expenditure so far in this connection has been negligible.

Kendriya Raj Bhasha Sewa

1359. SHRI NATHI SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some Ministries/Departments of the Government of India are being excluded