

(a) whether there is a renewed move in his Ministry to reserve the post of Secretary in the Indian Council for Cultural Relations exclusively for the I.F.S. personnel; and

(b) if so, what is Government's decision in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Re-instatement of P & T employees

*804. SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the P&T employees who were compulsorily retired during the Emergency have been or are being reinstated;

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

(c) whether the P&T employees who were retired compulsorily from Churu Post Office in Rajasthan have been reinstated; and

(d) if not, what steps are being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): (a) and (b) All such cases have been reviewed and where the officials have been prematurely retired without proper justification have been ordered to be reinstated in service.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. One Shri D. R. Gupta, Assistant Postmaster, Churu Post Office was prematurely retired. His case was also reviewed and orders for his reinstatement have already been issued on 23-11-77.

Rehabilitation of bonded labour

*805. SHRI S. W. DHABE:

SHRIMATI KUMUDBEN
MANISHANKAR JOSHI:

SHRI VINAYKUMAR RAM-
LAL PARASHAR:

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR
SAHU:

SHRI KRISHNA NAND
JOSHI:

Will the Minister of PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be
pleased to refer to the reply to Star-
red Question 369 given in the Rajya
Sabha on the 2nd December, 1977 and
state:

(a) what are the reasons for the
slow progress in rehabilitation of
freed bonded labour;

(b) what are the details of the re-
habilitation schemes formulated for
the purpose;

(c) whether the freed bonded labo-
urers are paid any maintenance
allowance till their rehabilitation; and

(d) what is the number of bonded
labourers who have been freed and
rehabilitated in various States during
the period from the 1st April to the
30th November, 1977?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND PAR-
LIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI LA-
RANG SAI): (a) to (d) A statement
is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The rehabilitation of released bond-
ed labourers is being undertaken by
the concerned State Governments
mainly under the various existing
Central and State on-going schemes
by providing them with avocation on
land-based programmes like allotment
of agricultural lands, house-sites, and
by providing loans at preferential rate
of interest to induct such labourers
into non-land based occupation like

animal husbandry, poultry-farming, dairy-farming and in village and cottage industries and also for agricultural development and purchase of agricultural inputs. Some State Governments are also reported to have drawn up their own special schemes which *inter alia*, provide for the payment of monthly cash grants to the

bonded labourers on their release for specified periods.

According to the information received from the State Governments, the position regarding release and rehabilitation of emancipated bonded labourers between the period 1st April, 1977 and 30th November, 1977 is as follows:

State	Total number of bonded labourers			
	Released		Rehabilitated	
	as on 1-4-77	as on 30-11-77	as on 1-4-77	as on 30-11-77
1. Andhra Pradesh	826	4,148	698	3,002
2. Bihar	2,038	2,301	350	613
3. Gujarat	42	..	42
4. Karnataka	58,587	64,042	4,668	6,876
5. Orissa	213	313	149	303
6. Madhya Pradesh	1,385	1,506	33	33
7. Kerala	702	900	..	186
8. Rajasthan	5,484	5,580	2,056	2,456
9. Tamil Nadu	2,870	2,832	1,940	2,293
10. Uttar Pradesh	19,242	19,242	12,805	12,805
11. Mizoram	3
	91,347	106,959	22,699	28,719

The primary responsibility for the identification, release and rehabilitation of bonded labourers under the law rests with the State Governments concerned. Since freed bonded labourers are scattered all over, it takes considerable time to prepare and implement appropriate rehabilitation schemes for each separate house-hold progress in the matter of rehabilitation of released bonded labour has not been such as to give entire satisfaction. The Central Government would however see that lack of funds does not stand in the way of rehabilitation and creation of conditions under which nobody remains in bondage.

Representation from the Indian Telephone Industries Employees' Union regarding payment of bonus

*806. SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHA-PATRO:

SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a representation, dated the 2d August, 1977 from the Indian Telephone Industries Employees' Union regarding the removal of 10 per cent limit imposed on the quantum of