

connections in Delhi has increased considerably in recent years ; and

(b) if so, what is the number of applications pending at the end of each of the last three years and what steps Government propose to take to clear the backlog ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) (1) No, Sir. (2) The waiting list during the last three years has been as follows :—

As on 31-3-74	—	90015
As on 31-3-75	—	103565
As on 31-3-76	—	47602
As on 31-3-77	—	42652

It may be mentioned that a scheme of advance deposits with the application forms was introduced with effect from Sept., 1975 to ensure that only those with genuine and urgent requirements remained on the waiting list. As a result thereof, the waiting list registered a substantial reduction in 1975-76.

(3) 9023 new telephone connections were added during 1975-76 and 16,085 during 1976-77.

(4) 27,000 lines of new telephone exchange capacity is under installation and is likely to be commissioned during 1977-78. With this and the available capacity it is hoped to add 20,000 new telephone connections during 1977-78.

(5) Plans are in hand to instal about 22,000 lines of telephone exchange equipment in 1978-79.

With these plans it is hoped to substantially reduce the average waiting period for installation of a telephone connection in Delhi/New Delhi areas.

Jobs for unemployed

328. SHRI BAPURAOJI MAROTRAOJI DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any scheme under Government's consideration to provide employment to trained B.Ed., D.Ed. and other equally qualified unemployed *your* men and women in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Tripartite conference convened by (the Ministry of Labour

329. SHRI S. W. DHABE : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the decisions taken at the Tripartite Conference of the representatives of Government, employers and Trade Unions held on the 6th and 7th May, 1977 in New Delhi.

(b) the names of the persons who attended this Conference; and

(c) what was the criterion for selecting participants to the said Conference ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA) : (a) and (b) A statement containing the main conclusions of the Conference (*see* below), and a list containing the names of participants are laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix CI. Annexure No. 23].

(c) As the intention was to make the Conference as broad-based as possible, representation was given to the Central and State Governments, the recognised Central Organisations of employers and the Public Sector employers under the Central and State Governments, the recognised Central Trade Unions and Trade Unions which claimed to be of all-India character. The actual selection of participants was done by the organisations concerned.

Statement Main conclusions of the Tripartite Conference of the representatives of Government, employers and Trade Unions held on the

6th and 7th May, 1977 in New Delhi Item 1 :—Certain issues relating to Comprehensive Law on Industrial Relations.

Item 4 :—Composition of Indian Labour Conference.

It was agreed that a tripartite working group should be set up to discuss and

study in-depth all the problems relating to Comprehensive Industrial Relations Law and composition of the future Indian Labour Conference. It would give its report by the end of August 1977.

The composition of the group and its terms of reference were left to be determined by the Labour Minister. Item 2 :—Worker's Participation.

The general consensus that emerged in the Conference was that a Compact Committee should be set up to study the matter in-depth and give its recommendations to enable the Government to formulate its policy on the subject. A special reference was made to the need for studying the implication of the concept of trusteeship in industry in evolving a viable scheme for worker's participation in management. It was also suggested that academic institutions should be associated with this Committee.

Item 3 :—Setting up of a Gratuity Fund.

There was a general agreement to have some sort of insurance cover for the gratuity payable to the workers under the payment of Gratuity Act. There was, however, no consensus on the exact form it should take. It was decided that the organisations represented at the Conference would send their specific suggestions on this point as well as on other aspects of the Gratuity Act which would be taken into consideration while formulating comprehensive amendments to the Gratuity Act, if necessary, after further consultation with workers and employers. Item 5 :—Labour in unorganised sector—

(Contract Labour, Construction Workers, Rural Workers and Bounded Labour).

Regarding unorganised labour specially the rural workers (agricultural labourers, share-croppers and small land owners, artisans etc.) the consensus was that owing to lack of time and non-availability of sufficient material, it would not be possible to discuss this in detail and do justice to the various complex issues pertaining to this vast sector. While the Conference

could discuss issues relating to contract labour and construction workers, a special Conference should be convened as early as possible to consider problems relating to rural workers. It was agreed that the participating organisations in the present Conference would send their suggestions to the Ministry of Labour within 20 days, about the nature of participants for the Special Conference and the nature of subjects to be discussed at the Conference.

Consumer's Price Index

With reference to the points raised about the deficiencies in the compilation of the Consumer's Price Index, during the general discussion, the union Labour Minister agreed to constitute a Committee consisting of representatives of trade unions, employers and experts to study the existing procedures of price collection and desirability of associating trade unions in the compilation of primary data. The Committee would submit its report latest within two months.

टेलीफोन प्रणाली के कार्यकरण की जांच करने के लिए संसदीय समिति

330. डा० लोकेश चन्द्र : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार देश में टेलीफोन प्रणाली के कार्यकरण में सुधार करने के बारे में सुझाव देने के लिए एक संसदीय समिति की स्थापना करने का विचार रखती है; और

(ख) भारत द्वारा दूर संचार उपग्रह की स्थापना कब तक कर दिये जाने की संभावना है ?

Parliamentary Committee to probe into the working of telephone system

330. DR. LOKESH CHANDRA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up a Parliamentary Committee to suggest improvements in the working of the telephone system in the country; and

(b) by when a tele-communication's satellite is likely to be set up by India?

[] English translation.