

Non-resuming of supply of nuclear materials to India by Canada

578. SHRI MAHENDRA BAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Canada has not yet agreed to resume supply of nuclear materials to India;

(b) whether any fresh approach has been made to Canada for the supply;

(c) if so, with what results; and

(d) the alternate arrangements Government have made for the supply of materials and equipments for the second unit of Rajasthan Atomic Power Project for which aid was to come from Canada?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Discussions on the subject have been held between Canadian and Indian delegations in Bombay recently but no final decisions were taken.

(d) Efforts are being made to secure the supplies from alternative sources.

Refusal of a licence for A. C. Pipe factory in Tamil Nadu

579. SHRI T. V. ANANDAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have refused licence to start an AC pipe factory in Tamil Nadu; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI B. P. MAURYA) : (a) and (b) No application for licence for the manufacture of A. C. Pipes in Tamil Nadu has been received

Harijans who embraced Christianity

580. SHRI T. V. ANANDAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that persons, belonging to Scheduled Castes who have-embraced Christianity are denied the facilities provided to Scheduled Castes;

(b) whether Government have received a representation from converted. Christian Harijan Community in Tamil Nadu in this matter; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN): (a) to (c) In

accordance with the provisions of Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Orders 1950 no person professing a religion other than the Hinduism or Sikhism can be treated as a Scheduled Caste. Scheduled Caste persons converted to Christianity cannot therefore, be granted the concessions admissible to Scheduled Castes. There is, however, no bar to the grant of concessions to such converts. Some State Governments are, however, treating them as Other Backward Classes and giving them concessions in the matter of admission to educational institutions and employment. They can also derive benefits from the Minimum Needs Programme formulated under the Fifth Five Year Plan.

Several representations have been received from members of the converted Harijan Community for grant of concession and they have been informed of the position.

Implementation of third pay commission's recommendation in P and T Department

581. SHRI B. R. MUNDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to earmark all the Junior i Scale posts for postal Wing and none ! to R.M.S. Phones and Engineering | Wings in order implementing the Third 1 Pay Commission's recommendations for i making some posts of Class I as Junior 1 Scale and the remaining in Senior Scale;.

(b) whether it is a fact that all posts in R.M.S., Engineering and Phone Divisions created after 1st January, 1973 (the date fixed for implementing recommendations), have been placed in Senior Class I; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to review the situation to do justice to all wings of P&T Department?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI S. D. SHARMA): (a) and (b) Keeping in view the importance and responsibilities involved in the working of RMS Divisions all the posts of Indian Postal Service, Class 1 in RMS Divisions have been placed in the Senior scale while posts in the Postal Divisions are in both the Junior and Senior Scales. In the case of Telegraph Engineering and Civil Engineering Wings of the P&T Department all the divisional charges are in the Senior Scale. This was the position even before 1-1-73.

(c) The organisation of the service in the manner indicated above in respect of RMS and Postal Wings has been decided taking into account all the relevant factors. There is no proposal to review the situation.

Colliery workers arrested under MISA

582. SHRI KALYAN ROY : SHRI
BHOLA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations dated March 14 and 7th April, 1975 regarding misuse of MISA and arrest of leading trade union workers belonging to the AITUC from various coal mines in West Bengal;

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

(c) whether it is a fact that colliery workers who were dismissed by the ex-mine owners and whose cases are pending before the Central Government Industrial Tribunal have been arrested under MISA;

(d) if so, what steps Government have taken to prevent the use of MISA for

arresting trade union leaders and members of various political parties and with what results;

(e) whether any steps have been taken to release the AITUC members and supporters who were arrested from various coal mines in Asansol-Reniganj Coal Belts under MISA; and

(f) if the reply to part (e) be negative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN): (a) and (b) Government have received two letters dated the 14th March and 7th April, 1975 from Shri Kalyan Roy, M.P. alleging indiscriminate use of MISA against four trade union leaders in the Asansol-Raniganj coal belt;

(c) to (f) Facts are being ascertained from the State Government.

Fire in coal stocks in the coal mines under C.M.A.

583. SHRI KALYAN ROY : SHRI
BHOLA PRASAD :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representation and seen press comments regarding wide-spread fire in coal stocks in some of the coal mines due to negligence by the managements of the C.M.A. and discrepancy between despatch and raising and stock and other malpractices leading to huge loss;

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

(c) what are the names of the coal mines where a large quantity of coal stocks was destroyed by fire during the last two years and the details thereof, including the total quantities and value of the coal destroyed by fire in each of the mines and factors responsible for the fire;

(d) whether Government have instituted a high-level probe into these fires and have taken action against the officers responsible for that; and