

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Smuggling of Films to Foreign Countries

386. SHRI VISWANATHA MENON:
DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of films are being smuggled to foreign countries and illegally exhibited in those countries even before they are released in India; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to check such illegal trade in films?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) and (b) There have been reports of smuggling from time to time and the Enforcement Authorities have been taking action against the smuggling of films. Wherever possible, assistance of foreign governments and their agencies is also sought to plug the loopholes.

Practising untouchability by Management of Shri Guru Govind Singh Khalsa College, Punjab

*388. DR. Z. A. AHMAD:

SHRI I. D. SINGH:

SHRI B. D. BARMAN:

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the management of the Shri Guru Govind Singh Khalsa College, Mahilpur in Punjab practised untouchability by dismissing two lecturers of the College because of their marriage on the ground that one of the spouses belonged to the Harijan community; and

(b) whether Government have been taken up the matter with the Punjab Government and if so, with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL

(SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by the Government of Punjab, Shri Ajeet and Smt. Dalwinder Kaur, Lecturers, Shri Guru Govind Singh Khalsa College, Mahilpur (affiliated to Panjab University, Chandigarh) were dismissed from service by the College management on the ground that they had "remained absent from duty without leave from the afternoon of 16th October, 1973 to 29th October, 1973" and had made "wild and false allegations" against the principal of the College which were "destructive of discipline in the College."

At the request of the lecturers the matter was referred to an Arbitration Committee as provided under the regulations of the University. The Committee in its award ruled that the order terminating the services of the lecturers was a nullity and they should be deemed to be in continuous service of the College.

The lecturers have since been reinstated.

Speedy trial of Political Prisoners

*389. SHRI I. D. SINGH:

SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA:

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:

SHRI J. S. ANAND:

SHRI BHOLA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news report which appeared in the 'Hindustan Standard' of 11th June, 1974 to the effect that the Association for Protection of Democratic Rights is reported to have released a statement by 22 eminent persons, mostly University teachers in the USA and Canada appealing to the Government of India to recognise political prisoners and arrange for their fair and speedy trials; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI UMASHANKAR DIKSHIT): (a) Yes, Sir.