

published in the Hindustan Times of 31st July, 1972 in which the Chief Minister of Rajasthan is reported to have stated that foreign agents are trying to incite communal forces in the country ;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have made any survey of the existence of foreign agents in the States and Union Territories ;

(c) if so, the names of the States and Union Territories where these agents are active and also the names of the foreign countries to which these agents belong ; and

(d) what steps are being taken by the Union Government to curb the activities of these agents ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN) : (a) to (d) Government has seen the news item. Government of Rajasthan has reported that the Chief Minister, in the course of his speech at Kanpur on July 30, 1972, referred to the possibility of attempts by hostile foreign elements and reactionary forces within the country to disrupt communal harmony. Utmost vigilance is maintained to safeguard against the activities of foreign agents. It will be appreciated it would not be in the public interest to disclose the information in the possession of the Government or the details of what the Government does to counter such activities.

1055. [Transferred to the 23rd August, 1972]

STATES' FIFTH FIVE YEAR PLAN

1056. DR. V. B. SINGH :

SHRI CHAKRAPANI SHUKLA :

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state the steps that are being taken to involve the State Governments to formulate State plans as well as district plans, with the help of elected representatives as well as experts, well in time to integrate them in the Fifth Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA) : In order to ensure that the strategy at the national level for the Fifth

Five Year Plan takes into account the potentials, priorities, capabilities and special endowments of different States, by a communication addressed by the Planning Commission on the 28th March, 1972, the State Governments have been requested to spell out their respective approaches to the Fifth Five Year Plan so as to reach the Planning Commission by the end of July 1972. The Planning Commission is already conducting an exercise on the formulation of its Approach Paper which will duly take into account the approaches indicated by the various States. Thereafter, in November 1972, it is expected by the Planning Commission that it will be possible to formulate and issue guidelines to the States for the preparation of Draft Outlines of State Plans which should be ready by the 31st January, 1973 so that they can be fully taken into account in finalising the Draft Outline of the Fifth Five Year Plan by the due date.

Since quite some time, and particularly since August 1971, the State Governments have been requested to set up State planning bodies and to strengthen the State planning machinery by the introduction of experts in various fields for associating with, and giving guidance to, the planning efforts of the State Governments. The State Governments have also been requested to set up Steering Groups and Task Forces under the Chairmanship of experts in the various disciplines, who should also be ex-officio members of the State Planning Boards. Some of the State Governments have already set up apex planning bodies and others are contemplating to do so. The Planning Commission has decided to share the additional expenditure in the States on account of the setting up of apex planning bodies and of strengthening the State planning machinery. These arrangements will ensure that the approach of the State Governments to the Fifth Five Year Plan and their Draft Outlines of State Plans, will be prepared under as careful and competent a guidance of experts as is available.

On the subject of formulation of District Plans, the Planning Commission has advised the State Governments since long and has also made available its services for the preparation of District Plans in selected Districts on a pilot basis. Work is going on in most of the States in this behalf, and it is expected that these District Plans under the guidance of the State Planning Boards and such other planning organisations that the respective State Governments may set up, will be prepared well in time

for their being integrated into the Draft Outline of the State Fifth Five Year Plans mentioned earlier.

In the communication sent from the Planning Commission to the State Governments bearing on the subject of formulation of the Fifth Five Year Plan, no specific suggestion has been made for associating elected representatives. The matter is left to the discretion of the State Governments. In the guidelines issued to the State Governments for the formulation of District Plans, suggestions have been made for the association therewith of local elected bodies like Panchayati Raj institutions.

DEMAND OF KIZHAKKAMBALAM TELEPHONE SUBSCRIBERS

1057. SHRI S. KUMARAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a demand from telephone subscribers in the Kizhakkambalam area in Kerala that the Kizhakkambalam which is now connected to Alwaye exchange should be connected with Cochin Telephone Exchange ;

(b) whether telephone connections from Cochin exchange have been granted within a radial distance of 5 kilometres from Kizhakkambalam area ; and

(c) if so, the reasons for not accepting this demand ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of Rajya Sabha.

COMPLAINTS ABOUT ALWAYE TELEPHONE SUB-DIVISION

1058. SHRI S. KUMARAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have recently received any complaints from telephone subscribers/applicants about the Alwaye Telephone Sub-Division, Kerala ;

(b) if so, the nature of the complain's received ; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) M/S. Anna Aluminium Co. Kizhakkambalam has complained of non-provision of telephone connection from Alwaye Telephone Exchange.

(c) Complainants were offered a telephone connection from the Exchange in the locality of the Company i.e. Kizhakkambalam, but they refused it and filed a writ petition in the High Court which is pending.

POLITICAL SUFFERERS ELIGIBLE FOR PENSION

1059. SHRI DWIJENDRALAL SENGUPTA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that Jail records of those freedom-fighters, who were in East Bengal Jails (Now Bangladesh) during British regime are no longer available ;

(b) whether the Government have received any representation for relaxing the conditions for proof of the period of imprisonment and also for the term "Dependants" ; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to include the declared absconders on political ground during British regime and those who lost their lives or limbs during the country's freedom struggle without being imprisoned for Government pension ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. Government have already decided that a certificate issued by an M. P. or Member of State Legislature or ex-M. P. or ex-Member of State Legislature who has been in jail with the applicant supported by an affidavit will be accepted as proof of imprisonment in place of jail certificate. The term "Dependants" will also include father and widower of freedom fighter.

(c) Persons who remained underground but did not suffer imprisonment would be eligible if they were (1) proclaimed offenders (2) for whom awards for arrest had been announced but were not arrested or (3) for whom detention orders were issued but not served.