

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b) The work on the TV Station at Srinagar is in progress except in so far as the construction of a road leading to the transmitter site on the Shankaracharya Hill is concerned. The work on the road has been suspended, pending examination of certain objections received by Government.

CHANGE IN SUGAR POLICY

1750. DR. (MRS.) MANGLADEVI TALWAR : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to make any change in the sugar policy for the next year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHAB SHINDE) : (a) and (b) As already stated in reply to Unstarred Question No. 1539 answered in the Sabha on the 22nd August, 1969, the sugar policy for 1969-70 will be considered shortly in consultation with the State Governments and other interests concerned.

MINIMUM WAGES FOR WORKERS

1751. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question No. 244, given in the Rajya Sabha on the 9th May, 1969 and state :

(a) whether Government have received the recommendations of the National Commission on Labour in respect of the minimum wages for workers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and what action has been taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD) : (a) and (b) The Report of National Commission on Labour was submitted to Government on the 28th August, 1969. A copy of the Report is being placed on

the Table of the Sabha. The recommendations made by the Commission in respect of minimum wages, will be considered by the Government in consultation with the interests concerned.

TERMINATION OF SERVICES OF ASSISTANT PRODUCER, A.I.R., CUTTACK STATION

1752. SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the contract service of art producer, children's programme of All-India Radio, Cuttack Station was terminated and ? fresh one year contract was signed with initial pay for participation in September strike of 1968 (Government Servants Strike);

(b) whether the Home Ministry has finalised examination of his case;

(c) whether there was no strike at all in All India Radio, Cuttack that day and the person was absent for father's illness with written application; and

(d) whether the genuineness of his absence has been enquired into by the Home Ministry and the case has been finalised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The matter was examined by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. It was not required to be referred to Ministry of Home Affairs.

(c) The strike was called by Central Government employees in general and not individually by each office. For absenting himself from duty on the day of the strike, the Assistant Producer concerned did not obtain prior permission from the Station Director which was necessary under the contract.

(d) The genuineness of the absence has been enquired into departmentally. Consultation with Home Ministry was not necessary.