

†CENTRAL TEAM TO STUDY INCIDENTS OF 'GHERAOS' IN CALCUTTA

*624. SARDAR HARCHARAN SINGH DUGAL : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a Central Study Team has recently visited Calcutta to collect data on the increasing incidents of "Gheraos" in West Bengal ;

(b) whether the Team has since submitted its report to Government ; and

(c) if so, details of their recommendations/findings in this regard and reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD) : (a) The Government did not depute any study team to West Bengal.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

BRANCH OFFICES OF SAMACHAR BHARATI NEWS AGENCY

*797. SHRI R. N. JHA :
SHRI REWATI KANT SINHA :
SHRI Z. A. AHMAD :
SHRI M. V. BHADRAM :

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

(a) the number of branch offices of the Samachar Bharati news agency functioning in India with employees grade-wise working in permanent and temporary capacities ;

(b) the names of employees functioning at Headquarters Office of the Samachar Bharati at Delhi, gradewise in permanent/temporary capacities and the service conditions of permanent and temporary staff reporters ;

(c) the amount of grants/loans advanced to this news agency by the State Governments/Central Government during the years 1966-67, 1967-68 and 1968-69 and the amount received from the business conducted during the years ; and

(d) the expenditure incurred by the News Agency in various Branch Offices/Headquarters Office at New Delhi during the period mentioned above ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a), (b) and (d) The Samachar Bharati is an independent News Agency and the Government have no control over it.

(c) The following loans were advanced to the Samachar Bharati :

Name of Government	Loan		
	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Central Government .	..	75,000	75,000
U. P. Government	76,000

No grants have been given to the Samachar Bharati either by the Central or the State Governments.

The loan has been advanced with a view to improving the existing arrangements for the collection and distribution of news and feature services in Indian languages, particularly, in Hindi for which the news agency was set up. Repayment of loan will commence from 1972.

BIRLA'S MOIRA COLLIERY

*798. SHRI KALYAN ROY :
SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MO-KHERJEE :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received serious complaints against Birla's Moira Colliery, West Bengal ;

†Transferred from the 20th August, 1969.

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

(c) what steps Government have taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD) : (a) and (b) We have received some complaints. These relate mainly to alleged assault and wrongful confinement of a worker in the Colliery Manager's bungalow, death of a worker's newly-born baby and lockout of the Colliery by the management.

(c) It has been reported that there was no lockout of the Colliery and the Colliery is working normally. The other allegations, which relate to alleged criminal offences, are under investigation by the State police authorities.

RICE SUPPLY TO KERALA

*799. SHRI KESAVAN (THAZHAVU) : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of rice supplied to Kerala by the Central Government or the Food Corporation of India during 1968-69 and so far in 1969-70 ;

(b) what was the issue price of rice supplied to Kerala during the above period ; and

(c) what was the procurement price of rice from Andhra Pradesh and the North Indian State during the above period ;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHB SHINDE) : (a) All rice supplied to Kerala by Central Government is issued directly from the Food Corporation of India's depots in Kerala to the fair price shops and other nominees of the State Government. The quantities issued were:

(lakh tonnes)

1968-69—

(April 1968—March 1969) 6.32

1969-70—

(April 1969—July 1969) . 2.69

(b) The price at which coarse rice was or is being supplied by the Food Corporation to the nominees of the State Government during the said period are :—

Period	Price in rupees per quintal nett weight inclusive of the cost of bags
Upto 3-5-1969 . . .	96.00
From 4-5-69 onwards . . .	100.00

(c) The procurement prices of coarse rice in Andhra Pradesh and other States from where rice was obtained for distribution in Kerala during the said period ranged between Rs. 72.69 and Rs. 90.00 per quintal plus the cost of the gunny bags (roughly between Rs. 2.25 to Rs. 2.50 per quintal gets added to the price of rice on this account).

TELEPHONE CONNECTION IN BARODA CITY

*800. SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a delegation led by the Members of the Gujarat Assembly and the members of the Telephone Advisory Committee represented to the Government regarding the non-availability of telephone connections in Baroda city for the past several years ;

(b) whether it is a fact that they have also demanded a Radio Station at Baroda ;

(c) if so whether the Government have considered these demands ; and

(d) if so, whether Government have made any provision in the Fourth Five Year Plan to this effect ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SATYA NARAYAN SINHA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Madam.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. The Government have made a provision for installation of a 1 KW medium wave transmitter at Baroda for Vividh Bharati Service and for construction of a permanent