

(c) It is presumed that the Honourable Member has in mind the recent British legislation on "Commonwealth immigrants" and the entry into U.K. of persons of Indian origin in Kenya holding UK and Colonies passports. The matter was duly taken up with the UK Government and it was agreed that any person who is compelled by circumstances in Kenya to leave that country will be issued an endorsement by the British High Commission in Nairobi on his passport guaranteeing his unrestricted entry into U.K. Thereafter, our High Commission in Nairobi will grant him a visa for visit to India for stay upto a period of six months to enable him to decide whether he wishes to stay on in India or to go to U.K. The British Home Secretary made a statement in the House of Commons assuring that, if any person holding UK and Colonies passports is thrown out of the country of his erstwhile residence and ejected from his work, UK has to take him.]

PROMOTION OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS IN PUNJAB

898. SARDAR RAM SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some members of Parliament from Punjab have submitted a memorandum urging Government to probe into the circumstances leading to the promotion of the Director of Public Relations in Punjab and into the working of his department; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. K. SHAH): (a) and (b) Information received from the State Government indicates that a memorandum was submitted to the Governor, Punjab, by some Members of Parliament regarding the propriety of re-appointment of the present Director of Public Relations and the re-transfer of a Public Relations Officer to a particular station. Both these complaints have been examined by the State Government, who are of the view that no irregularity was committed nor undue favour shown to any of the two officers.

SHORT SERVICE TECHNICAL COMMISSION IN THE ARMY

899. SARDAR RAM SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme has been drawn up to introduce Short Service Technical Commission in the army to provide employment to the engineers in the country; and

(b) if so, what would be the employment potentialities as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH): (a) and (b) Government have decided to introduce a Short Service Commission (Technical) Scheme as a replacement for the Compulsory Service Liability Scheme. Details of the Scheme are being worked out. The annual recruitment under this scheme would be 350 Technical graduates. In addition, the present quota of recruitment for Permanent Commission for Engineering Graduates has also been increased from 90 to 200 per year.

AUTONOMOUS CORPORATION FOR AIR AND TV

900. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to make All India Radio and Television Department an autonomous corporation; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. K. SHAH): (a) and (b) In its report on Radio and Television the Committee on Broadcasting and Information Media had recommended conversion of AIR and TV set-up of AIR into two separate autonomous corporations. The matter is under consideration and a final decision is expected to be taken shortly.