

amount of 2,70,000 Saudi Riyals which is equal to nearly £ 22,500 as the third instalment of the aid to Pakistan which was started during the Indo-Pakistan conflict;

(b) the reported total amount of money given as aid to Pakistan by the said committee, and

(c) the reaction of the Government of India in this matter?]

वैदेशिक-कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री  
(श्री दिनेश सिंह) (क) जी हा। वास्तव में यह रकम 2,73,000 रियाल बनाई जाती है।

(ख) बताया जाता है कि कुल मिलाकर करीब 20 लाख सऊदी रियाल इकट्ठे किए गये थे और जेद्दा-स्थित पाकिस्तान के राजदूतावास को दिये गये थे।

(ग) इस मामले में जो पक्षपात दृष्टिकोण दिखाया गया है उससे भारत सरकार अप्रसन्न है। जेद्दा में और सऊदी अरब के राजदूत से यहाँ भी कड़ा विरोध प्रदर्शित किया गया था। सऊदी अरब के अधिकारियों ने हमें बताया कि यह रकम एक गैर-सरकारी मस्था द्वारा इकट्ठी की गई थी और इस सिलसिले में पाकिस्तान को सरकारी तौर पर कोई ऋण नहीं दिया गया है।

†[THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH):  
(a) Yes, Sir. Actually, the figure is reported to be 2,73,000 Riyals

(b) A total sum of approximately two million Saudi Riyals was reported to have been collected and handed over to the Pakistan Embassy in Jeddah

(c) Government of India are unhappy at the partisan approach shown in this matter. Strong representations were made both in Jeddah and

through the Saudi Arabian Ambassador here, we were informed by the Saudi Arabian authorities that these collections were made by a 'non-official' body and no official credits had been extended to Pakistan in this respect.]

#### VACANCIES IN THE CADRE OF CIS

\*166 SHRI NAND KISHORE BHATT Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) whether there are number of vacancies in the cadre of CIS even after providing all the UPSC selected candidates with regular posts, and

(b) if so, whether Government would consider the absorption of Staff Artistes—retrenched and those awaiting retrenchment—in this cadre?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some of the posts included in Grade IV of the Central Information Service are currently held by persons engaged on contract basis as Staff Artistes in AIR as a stop gap measure pending selection of candidates through the UPSC. These Staff Artistes are not eligible for permanent absorption in the Service under the rules. The question whether the posts now occupied by them should not be held in abeyance till the Staff Artistes concerned happen to vacate them is under consideration.

#### TELUGU PROGRAMME FROM HYDERABAD STATION OF AIR.

\*167 SHRI P K KUMARAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state,

(a) whether it is a fact that a complaint has been received regarding the literary programme in Telugu broadcast from the Hyderabad station of