

(a) whether any decision has since been taken regarding Commercial Broadcasting by A.I.R.; and

(b) if so, what are the detail* thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI NANDINI SATPATHY) : (a) The matter is still under consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRIMATI LALITHA (RAJAGOPALAN): How long will it take to come to a decision ?

SHRI RAI BAHADUR: The main Report of the Chanda Committee on A.I.R. has just been submitted. In fact, it is an independent Committee. I am very anxious that I should lay a copy of the Report on the Table of the House at the earliest opportunity and I hope I will be able to do so before the current Session is over. Once that is done, we shall be able to apply our minds to the various recommendations contained in it. This is not a simple matter because different opinions have been expressed. Anyhow, we shall try to take a decision as quickly as possible.

SHRIMATI LALITHA (RAJAGOPALAN): May I know whether the farm broadcasts have been introduced and, if so, what is the progress?

SHRI RAI BAHADUR : Farm broadcasts have been going on.

CINEMATOGRAPHIC FILMS

*142. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question No. 913 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 5th April, 1966 and state:

(a) whether any final decision has since been taken to appoint a Committee to enquire into the working of the existing procedure for sanctioning of cinematographic films; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) and (b) The matter is still under consideration.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know what are the reasons for the delay in the appointment of this Committee when this House passed a Resolution recommending to the Government that a committee on these lines be appointed and specially when the terms of reference were contained in the Resolution passed by this august House?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: As the hon. Member is aware, the Resolution was adopted on 7th May, 1965. When consideration thereon started, unfortunately there were certain events including hostilities with Pakistan and other events also came in the way. Meanwhile we have again tried to take up the consideration. But there are two important matters which I would like to bring to the notice of the House. One is that the Chanda Committee is also charged with the work of examining and evaluating the operations, policies, programmes and production of the various media units which include the Central Board of Film Censors. The Resolution requires the proposed Committee to enquire into the working of the existing procedure for sanctioning cinematographic films which is a function of the Central Board of Film Censors with which presently the Chanda Committee is also engaged. It is true that the feature films may not be covered by this, most of them, but the question remains that the sanctioning of exhibitional films is a function of the Central Board of Film Censors which is being examined by the Chanda Committee, and that is one reason. The second reason is that there is a certain need for economy. We got the estimates made and it requires about Rs. 6 lakhs to appoint this Committee and to have its report through. I do realise that there are certain matters concerning the film industry which do require a thorough examination. That is why certain time is taken.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA : Are we to understand from the hon. Minister's reply that after the submission of the Chanda Committee's Report this committee has

become redundant and it is not proposed to appoint this committee as suggested by this House?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: I cannot say that offhand. Let us see what the Chanda Committee has got to say about this particular matter. In case there is overlapping we would certainly like to avoid it.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA : When we are short of raw films, may we know whether the Government is considering at least going through the stories or the themes of the films before sanctioning such raw films to the producers ? We do not know why that restriction cannot be imposed.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: We try to allot raw films according to needs, as best as we can, within the resources available to us. But if we apply any control on the themes of the films, etc., I do not know whether that way we would be offending the fundamental right of expression. That might be offended, I do not know. I am just putting it.

भारतीय वैदेशिक सेवा के अधिकारी और कर्मचारी

*143. प्रो० सत्यव्रत सिद्धान्तलंकार : क्या वैदेशिक-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भारतीय वैदेशिक सेवा के अधिकारियों तथा कर्मचारियों के लिए किसी विदेशी भाषा का ज्ञान अनिवार्य अथवा वांछनीय समझा जाता है;

(ख) क्या इन कर्मचारियों की चरित्र-पंजिका में विदेशी भाषा के ज्ञान को बताने वाला कोई विशेष स्तम्भ है; और

(ग) क्या सरकार उनके लिए हिन्दी का ज्ञान प्राप्त करने को अनिवार्य बनाने और उनकी हिन्दी की अहंताओं की प्रविष्टि उनकी चरित्र पंजिका में करने के लिये कोई कदम उठाने का विचार कर रही है ?

†OmCHR'S AND STAFF OF INDIAN FOR SERVICE

*143. PROF. 'SATYAVRATA SID-DHANTALANKAR: Will the Minister

t[1 English translation.

of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be please^ to state

(a) whether knowledge of any foreign language is considered compulsory or desirable for the officers and other staff of the Indian Foreign Service;

(b) whether there is some special column in the character rolls of these staff for indicating knowledge of foreign language; and

(c) whether Government are considering any steps to make it compulsory for them to acquire knowledge of Hindi and make an entry of their Hindi qualifications in their character rolls ?]

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH) :

(a) Yes, Sir. IFS officers recruited through the Union Public Service Commission competitive examination are required to pass a departmental examination which includes a compulsory foreign language. For other officers serving abroad, knowledge of foreign languages is considered desirable and language qualification is encouraged.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) IFS officers recruited through competitive examination are required to pass a departmental examination in Hindi. Since confirmation depends on this, the Hindi qualification is automatically included in the service records. For other officers in Branch (B) of the IFS, the character roll includes an entry about knowledge of Hindi.

‡[वैदेशिक-कार्य मंत्री (सरदार स्वर्ण सिंह) :

(क) जी हाँ। भारतीय विदेश सेवा के जो पदाधिकारी संघ लोक सेवा आयोग की प्रतियोगी परीक्षाओं के द्वारा भर्ती किए जाते हैं, उन्हें एक विभागीय परीक्षा पास करनी होती है जिसमें एक अनिवार्य विदेशी भाषा शामिल है। विदेशों में काम करने वाले अन्य पदाधिकारियों के लिए, विदेशी भाषाओं का ज्ञान वांछनीय समझा जाता है और भाषा योग्यता को प्रोत्साहन दिया जाता है।

(ख) जी हाँ।