

would like to know what the position was in 1963-64. Five hundred sets were allocated for 1963-64 and we are trying to get more and more sets and we have already placed our indent on the Director-General S. & D.

SHRI BIREN ROY: Sir, in view of the unsatisfactory state of affairs—mountainous terrain, etc.—is it not possible to have completely fool-proof sealed transistorised sets despatched to these places? It is possible to do that.

SHRI C. R. PATTABHI RAMAN: Even sealed sets are affected by climatic conditions—rainy areas, especially in that place. Even that kind of sealing may not prevent the sets from getting out of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Roy thought it could be done.

SHRI BIREN ROY: Certainly, Sir, it could be done.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

*446. [The Questioner (Shri Bhupesh Gupta) was absent. For answer, vide col. 2995 infra.]

*278. [The Questioner (Thakur Bhanu Pratap Singh) was absent. For answer vide col. 2996 infra.]

OVERSEAS CORRESPONDENTS FOR A.I.R. NEWS

*447. **SHRI A. D. MANI:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to appoint two overseas correspondents to cover the news for the All India Radio; and

(b) if so, at what centres these correspondents are proposed to be appointed and what would be their jurisdiction in respect of news coverage?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND

BROADCASTING (SHRI C. R. PATTABHI RAMAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) One will be stationed in Cairo to cover Africa and West Asia, while the other will be stationed in Hong Kong to cover South and South East Asia.

SHRI A. D. MANI: May I ask the Minister whether the Government have worked out the cost of maintaining two correspondents abroad?

SHRI C. R. PATTABHI RAMAN: It involves foreign exchange. I am not able to give the correct figure.

SHRI A. D. MANI: May I ask the Minister whether it is necessary for the Government to have two special correspondents abroad, when particularly one of the Indian Agencies the P.T.I., is able to give extensive foreign coverage from its own correspondents?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: Obviously we would not have sanctioned these posts if we had not considered it absolutely necessary. We are not satisfied with the coverage which we get from other correspondents.

SHRI A. D. MANI: May I ask the Minister why it has not been considered necessary to have correspondents in the African territories where there are Indian nations, like Kenya and Ceylon where there is a substantial population of Indian origin?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: It is because of the shortage of foreign exchange that the number of correspondents which we had originally proposed was cut down.

श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौरडिया:

क्या यह बताने का कष्ट करेंगे कि वर्तमान में जो पी० टी० आई० को और देशों से न्यूज़ देने के लिए सहायता देनी पड़ती है या धन देना पड़ता है, उसमें कितनी बचत होगी या हो सकेगी, और कितना खर्चा वैसे अपने की लगने वाला है ?

श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी : मुझे माफ करियेगा, जनाब । इस प्रश्न का उत्तर मैं अभी नहीं दे सकती । मैं बाद में मालम कर के दे दूंगी ।

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: May I know if the gentleman who broadcast the "Topic for to day" yesterday is one of the persons contemplated to be appointed? He makes his broadcasts in a very lethargic and terrified manner. His performance on a day like yesterday was most disappointing.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: This is a matter of opinion. We have not yet decided on the names of the personnel.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : श्रीमन्, मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि आकाशवाणी के ये संवाददाता अपने समाचार किस माध्यम से भेजेंगे ? आल इंडिया रेडियो के पास टेलीप्रिन्टर नहीं है और अगर वे संवाद समितियों की तुलना में अपने समाचार जल्दी नहीं भेज सकेंगे, तो वे प्रतियोगिता में कैसे ठहरेंगे ?

श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी : इस प्रश्न पर विचार किया जा रहा है ।

SHRI SANTOKH SINGH: It has been stated by the Minister that the working of the P.T.I. has been found to be deficient. May I know what are the deficiencies in the working of the P.T.I.?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: It is not as efficient as we would like it to be.

REGIONAL LABOUR INSTITUTES

*448. SHRI S. C. DEB: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up four more regional labour Ins-

titutes in the country besides those in Calcutta, Kanpur and Madras;

(b) if so, when these will be opened and where they will be located; and

(c) whether they would be modelled on the Central Labour Institute of Bombay?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI D. SANJIVAYYA): (a) Yes. The proposal is to set up four more Regional Labour Institutes.

(b) These will be set up during the fourth Plan period. Their location has not yet been decided.

(c) Yes, but on a reduced scale on the lines of the Regional Labour Institutes already set up at Madras, Kanpur and Calcutta.

SHRI S. C. DEB: May I know when the decision will be taken to set up and where they will be located?

SHRI D. SANJIVAYYA: We have not yet taken any decision with regard to the location.

SHRI S. C. DEB: May I know what would be the particular function of these institutes in these regions?

SHRI D. SANJIVAYYA: In these Institutes we will have four divisions: (1) Industrial safety, health and welfare centre; (2) Industrial hygiene and laboratory; (3) Library-cum-information Centre; and (4) Training Centre.

SHRI S. C. DEB: May I know how the staff will be selected?

SHRI D. SANJIVAYYA: Normally we recruit through the U.P.S.C.

SHRI D. THENGARI: What factors will be taken into consideration while selecting the centres?

SHRI D. SANJIVAYYA: Now Calcutta, Kanpur and Madras have been selected. So far as the western re-