

SHRI D. THENGARI: May I know how the members were selected for the Committee? Were there any particular criteria?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: There was no special directive laid down but I had talks with a number of people before and I thought it was important to have younger people who were interested in certain aspects and had also taken the trouble to find out something about it.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: The hon. Minister said that the Committee decided it. I take it. Now may I know whether the Committee took into account that in those countries these things are very developed and the material conditions do not exist in our country to have them implemented even if you acquired the necessary experience from there and secondly whether the Committee also considered the advisability of first studying whatever material was available here and if necessary by also getting the materials from the countries concerned before it took the decision that a delegation of this kind should be sent? May I know whether this aspect was specifically discussed by the Committee before deciding on this delegation?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: Sir, the Committee did fully study whatever books or other literature were available on these subjects.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

INDIAN NATIONAL FLAG FLOWN HALF-MAST ON LATE SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL'S FUNERAL

*446. SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian National Flag was flown half-mast on Government buildings on the day of the funeral of the late Sir Winston Churchill as a mark of respect to him; and

(b) if so, whether on any other previous occasion on the passing away of a foreign private citizen State mourning in this form was observed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

†ADDITIONAL STAFF FOR MAINTENANCE OF AUDIO VISUAL EQUIPMENTS

*278. THAKUR BHANU PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Madhya Pradesh has requested the Central Government for the creation of some additional posts for proper maintenance of Audio Visual equipment in Community Listening Centres; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The maintenance and operation of Community Listening Sets is the sole responsibility of the State Governments. All the State Governments in the South, as well as Maharashtra and Gujarat, have set up excellent maintenance organisations. Some States in the North have weak organisations. They have been asked to set up effective maintenance units.

We propose to establish six central maintenance units mainly for Union Territories. However, they

†Transferred from the 30th August 1965.