

**INTERVIEW OF THE MINISTER WITH |
"ENCOUNTER" IN LONDON**

383. SHRI P. L. KUREEL *URF* TALIB: Will the Minister of INFORMATION and BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during her visit to London to attend the recent Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference she was interviewed in the televised programme 'Encounter';

(b) if so, what were the specific questions put to her and what were her replies to those questions; and

(c) the names of the persons who interviewed her on the television?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI (INDIRA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A transcript of the questions put and the replies given is attached. [See Appendix XLIX, Annexure No. 20].

(c) Mr. Robert McKenzie, the BBC Commentator, and Mr. Richard Harris of the *Times*.

**HONORARY SERVICE OF A. V. MARSHALL
H ARJINDER SINGH**

384. SHRI RAM SUNGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air Vice-Marshall Harjinder Singh, after retirement, offered his honorary services to the Defence Ministry; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for not accepting his offer?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. M. THOMAS): (a) Air Vice-Marshall Harjinder Singh was not prepared for extension in service on medical grounds. However, before his retirement he offered his services in an honorary capacity.

678 Rs.—4.

(b) it was not possible for Air Vice-Marshall Harjinder Singh to continue to stay in Kanpur, where the Avro project was located. He would not, therefore, have been available for full time supervision which was necessary for a project of this importance.

STAFF ARTISTES IN A.I.R.

385. SHRIMATI

SHAKUNTAL

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PARANJPYE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of staff artistes in the various stations of the All India Radio who are drawing a monthly salary (i) below Rs. 150 and (ii) between Rs. 150 and 300;

(b) how many of them have been in service for over 5 years.

(c) whether they get any allowances over and above their salary;

(d) what is the usual period of their contract;

(e) upon whose advice they are reappointed after the expiry of their term;

(f) whether there is any provision for staff artistes becoming permanent after having served for a definite period; and

(g) whether there is a graded scale of salary applicable to them?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI):

(a) (i) Below Rs. 150 88

(ii) Between Rs. 150-300 1246

(b) (i) Below Rs. 150 43

(ii) Between Rs. 150-300 847

(c) No, Sir.

(d) From one to three years.

(e) The Head of the All India Radio Station or Office, concerned.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) No, Sir; but a fee-range is observed for each category of Staff Artiste.

PATROL BOATS

386. SHRI M. RUTHNASWAMY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state the number of patrol boats, motorised, manned and equipped for the defence of the coasts of India, which have been built so far?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. M. THOMAS): Three Seawa/d Defence Boats equipped for the Local Naval defence of harbours have so far been indigenously constructed. Three more are being built and are likely to be commissioned by the end of 1966.

SHRI DANGE'S SPEECH AT NATIONAL DEFENCE COLLEGE

387. SHRI N. PATRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the month of June last Shri S. A. Dange, Chairman of Communist Party of India, was invited to speak to the students of the National Defence College on the relation between China and Russia; and

(b) if so, whether it does not constitute a departure of the policy of not associating political leaders with the affairs of the said college?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. M. THOMAS): (a) It is a fact that Shri S. A. Dange was invited to speak to the students of the National Defence College. However,

the correct date on which he addressed the students was 22nd July, 1964, and the subject he spoke on was "International Communism—Unity and Conflict".

(b) No. It is not correct to say that political leaders are not associated with the affairs of the College in any manner. Political personalities who can authoritatively speak on specific political subject have been invited in the past to address student-officers of the College.

PARADEEP PORT

388. SHRI N. PATRA: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a report from Sard^r Kapur Singh, M.P. Leader of the Parliamentary Study Group, which visited different National Projects in the Eastern Region during the month of May, 1964; and

(b) what is the reference made in the said report regarding the Paradeep Port under construction in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA. NARAYAN SINHA): (a) Yes.

(b) The reference to the Paradeep Port in the report states: —

"The Orissa Government is enthusiastically going on with this project. The complaint is that centre cooperation is not upto the extent it ought to be. It is said that Centre seems not to attach so much importance to the development of this port as they do to others. Whatever may be the Centre's views, this port appears as vital for development of Orissa. The present system of construction-working, without machinisa-tion facilities, must be very expensive as transport charges are high. For the present this may, perhaps, be unavoidable."