

listening sets to the State Governments for use in rural areas.

स्टाफ आर्टिस्ट नियुक्त करने के बारे में सूचना तथा प्रसारण मन्त्री का अधिकार

*२१. श्री प्यारे लाल कुरील 'तालिब' : क्या सूचना तथा प्रसारण मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या उन्हें यह अधिकार प्राप्त है कि वे आकाशवाणी में २५०० रुपये तक के मासिक वेतन वाले स्टाफ आर्टिस्टों को ठेके के आधार पर नियुक्त कर सकें; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उन्हें यह अधिकार कब से प्राप्त है ?

†[POWERS OF MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING TO EMPLOY STAFF ARTISTES]

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

(a) whether he is empowered to employ staff artistes in the All India Radio on contract basis upto a monthly salary of Rs. 1500; and

(b) if so, since when he has been given this power?]

संसद्-कार्य मन्त्री (श्री सत्यनारायण सिंह):

(क) और (ख) स्टाफ आर्टिस्टों को मासिक फीस फ़्टकर खर्च में से दी जाती है, जिस को खर्च करने का विभिन्न मंत्रालयों को पूर्ण अधिकार प्राप्त है ?

इसलिए सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय को स्टाफ आर्टिस्टों को किसी भी मासिक फीस पर रखने के अधिकार तभी से प्राप्त हैं जब से आकाशवाणी की स्थापना हुई और स्टाफ आर्टिस्टों के पद चालू हुए ।

†[THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA NARAYAN SINHA): (a) and (b) Staff artistes are paid monthly "fee", an item of contingent expenditure, for incurring of which various Ministries have got full powers.

Information and Broadcasting Ministry has, therefore, been empowered to engage staff artistes on any monthly fee ever since the institution of staff artistes came into vogue with the establishment of the A.I.R.]

A.I.R. BROADCASTS ABOUT CASUALTIES IN EAST PAKISTAN

*22. DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that All India Radio has been giving the numbers of casualties among the minority communities in East Pakistan in the course of its news bulletins; and

(b) if so, whether these numbers have been checked with official information from the Indian High Commission in Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA NARAYAN SINHA): (a) Yes, Madam, All India Radio has occasionally given information about casualties in the riots in Khulna, Jesore and Dacca, on the basis of news agency messages, particularly of the Press Trust of India.

(b) No, Sir.

DELIVERY OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT UNDER NASSAU AGREEMENT

*23. SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Governments of United States of America and United Kingdom have completed delivery of military equipment in accordance with the Nassau Agreement; and