

RAJYA SABHA

Wednesday, 22nd September 1954

The House met at eleven of the clock,
MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

EMPLOYMENT FOR RETRENCHED PROGRAMME ASSISTANTS

*453. SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: Will the Minister for INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state the steps, if any, so far taken by Government for providing suitable employment to the retrenched Programme Assistants of the All India Radio?

THE PARLIMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE MINISTER FOR INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN): The cases of the 22 retrenched Programme Assistants were examined for the purpose of finding out suitable alternative employment for them in All India Radio and other media units of the Ministry. As a result, seven have been given contractual engagements in All India Radio. Two others have recently been offered posts in another department of the Ministry and the case of one person is under consideration. No suitable employment has been found for the rest under this Ministry. The cases of all 22 persons have been communicated to the Director-General of Resettlement and Employment who gives the highest priority to retrenched personnel while recommending their names to appointing authorities.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: May I know, whether there are vacancies in their regular appointments in the All India Radio?

DR. B. V. KESKAR: I am not aware, Sir, whether at this moment there are any particular vacancies in the regular appointments but the hon. Member might be aware that in all the regular appointments, the appointment is made by the Union Public Service Commission.

63 RSD

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: May I know, Sir, how far the Government has proceeded in fulfilling the programme that is laid out in the Five Year Plan in regard to the opening of new stations?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is another question.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: That means more employment.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are trying your best.

DR. B. V. KESKAR: I would like to know the incidental question.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: There will be more employment.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: Because there will be more posts.

DR. B. V. KESKAR: Mr. C. G. K. Reddy posed this question in this House last year and a detailed answer was given. If I remember aright, you were good enough to give about fifteen minutes of the Question Hour for this question.

The post of Programme Assistant is a regular and permanent post on the administrative side and if there is expansion in the administrative structure—which I do not expect immediately—and if any recruitment takes place, it will only be through the regular channel, that is, by the Union Public Service Commission. We are not going to make any *ad hoc* appointments. When recruitment takes place, we will certainly recommend to the Union Public Service Commission the cases of these people.

I might also add, Sir, that this particular retrenchment is of a different type from the ordinary retrenchment done by a department for purely economic reasons. The whole cadre was in a very highly irregular and uncertain position and we entrusted the Union Public Service Commission with the job of regularising the cadre. During the course of that, they examined the cases of every one of the

candidates and I might inform the hon. Member that of the 22 retrenched, 13 or 14 were considered by the Union Public Service Commission to be thoroughly unfit to hold the job. Even if there had not been any retrenchment, we would have been forced to discharge the 13 or 14 of them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is a long answer.

STANDARDIZATION OF SCALES OF PAY OF STAFF ARTISTES IN ALL INDIA RADIO

*454. SHRIMATI P A R V A T H I KRISHNAN: Will the Minister for INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to standardise the scales of pay and conditions of service of the staff artistes employed in the All India Radio;

(b) if so, what are the proposals under consideration; and

(c) when they are likely to be given effect to?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE MINISTER FOR INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN): (a) Conditions of service of the staff artistes in All India Radio have been settled and a copy of the relevant orders is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix VIII, Annexure No. 129.] Effect has already been given to these conditions of service.

(b) and (c). The scheme of standardisation of the scales of pay is under consideration as part of the main question of the formation of a Production Staff for programmes. It is hoped the scheme will be finalised soon.

PAKISTANI RAIDS IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR STATE

*455. SHRI S. PANIGRAHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistani nationals have recently raided some villages in Kashmir;

(b) whether Pakistan militia crossed the border line and the cease-fire line in that State; and

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken to prevent such raids?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA): (a) and (b). There have been some raids by Pakistani nationals into the State of Jammu and Kashmir during the month of August 1954. It is not known whether any personnel of the Pakistan militia participated in these raids.

(c) In view of the long stretch of the cease-fire line and the Jammu-Punjab (P) border, it is not possible to prevent such raids altogether. Suitable measures are, however, taken to check them.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: How many times in the past did such incidents occur?

MR CHAIRMAN: This year?

SHRI S. MAHANTY: In the last year.

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: In 1953, there were 76 border raids in the Jammu-Kashmir border. There were 71 raids and 5 violations of the cease-fire line. During the period January-July, 1954, there have been 50 border raids, 46 raids and 4 violations of the cease-fire line.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: Sir, the consistency of the raids seems to remain. May we know what steps the Government of India took to prevent such raids last year?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: As I said in my answer, it is impossible altogether to stop these raids but every possible step is being taken to stop these incidents as far as possible.