

**SHRI H. C. DASAPPA:** What is the extent of the site?

**SARDAR SWARAN SINGH:** The area? It is roughly ten acres.

**SARI B. K. P. SINHA:** Do Government propose to develop any other area near-by and allot plots to lawyers for constructing their houses?

**SARDAR SWARAN SINGH:** No, Sir, there is no such scheme at the moment under contemplation

\*91 and \*92. [The questioner (Moulana M. Faruqi) was absent. For answers vide cols. 707-708 infra.]

#### NEWS CORRESPONDENTS EMPLOYED BY A. I. R.

\*93. **SHRI V. M. SURENDRA RAM:** Will the Minister for INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of news correspondents and special news representatives employed by the All India Radio; and

(b) what are the salaries of these employees?

**THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE MINISTER FOR INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN):** (a) and (b). A statement giving the information is laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha.

#### STATEMENT

| Designation of the post | Number of posts | Salary                           |
|-------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| Senior Correspondent    | 3               | In the scale of Rs. 720-40-1000. |
| Correspondent           | 6               | In the scale of Rs. 530-30-710   |

**SHRI S MAHANTY:** Have these correspondents been asked not to marry without the sanction of the Information and Broadcasting Ministry?

**DR. B. V. KESKAR:** The hon. Member's question is based probably on some distorted news item. Certain distorted news appeared in the newspapers regarding general rules of conduct for employees of the All India Radio, and I would like to take this occasion of saying that the news that has appeared in the newspapers is quite wrong. The correct version is this that in an organization, which has a very large number of women employed alongside with men, the attention of the employees was drawn to certain rules of conduct which are there in the Government Servants' Conduct Rules—which one is apt to forget sometimes—and they have been told that they should keep in mind the Government Servants' Conduct Rules and if they do not observe them, they might become liable to disciplinary action. The second thing is that in an organization which has got 30 or 40 centres all over the country, where one is liable to be transferred from one place to another, if two employees who are employed in the same organization want to marry they should note this warning that they cannot be posted at the same place together, and this they should know before going in for such marriage.

**SHRI S. N. DWIVEDY:** Has any action been taken against any officer for violation of these rules?

**DR. B. V. KESKAR:** There is no question of violation at all. The action is that we will not post them together.

**SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA:** Then what was the necessity of drawing the attention of these employees to the Government Servants' Conduct Rules?

**DR. B. V. KESKAR:** The occasion is this: During the last three or four years, a number of regrettable incidents have occurred in a number of stations, and it is possible that some employees might think that such kind of conduct is probably ordinary and is something in which they can indulge.

**SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA:** If they are going to marry what is the regrettable incident about it and if they marry why should the Government be worried over it and take special precautions to see that they do not marry?

**DR. B. V. KESKAR:** Sir, the hon. Member is trying not to understand the answer. I have said that we have nothing to say if they marry, but the question is that they should not expect to be posted at the same station. They will be treated as two individual employees of the All India Radio because it is not possible in the interests of efficiency to post two employees or couples all the time together. We have not said anything against their marriage.

**SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA:** Sir, should it not be the policy of the Government that if married couple are employed, though there is no guarantee that they should be kept together in one place, the Government should as far as possible see that they are employed in one place?

**DR. B. V. KESKAR:** That depends on the type of service and on the type of organisation concerned. We never say that they will not be employed together, but they are warned that they should not always expect to be posted together.

**SHRI S. MAHANTY:** Is the Government aware that such puritanic imposition will lead to inefficiency?

(No reply.)

#### TEA CHESTS

\*94. **KAZI KARIMUDDIN:** Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether licences were granted in 1953-54 and have been granted so far in 1954-55 for the import of tea chests; if so, how many tea chests were imported during 1953-54;

(b) whether tea chest industry in India has represented to Government that large imports of tea chests have brought hardship on that industry; and

(c) whether Government propose to encourage this indigenous industry; and if so, how?

**THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR):** (a) No licences were issued during January-June 1953. During the periods July-December 1953 to July-December 1954 licences to established importers on a token quota of 5 per cent. have been issued. During 1953-54, 407,000 numbers of sets of tea chests were imported.

(b) No such representations have been received recently.

(c) Yes, Sir. Every possible assistance has been given to this industry. A statement showing the extent of assistance is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(1) In order to utilise the present capacity effectively, additional capacity is discouraged.

(2) A protective duty of 30 per cent. *ad valorem* has been levied on imports.

(3) Assistance with regard to supplies of timber and other raw materials such as steel, cement, cassein etc., and import of machinery has been given.

(4) Inspection and marking of approved products satisfying standard specifications have been arranged.

(5) A list of approved factories has been maintained with a view to enable the tea producers to obtain their requirements of quality tea chests from these factories.

(6) Arrangements for giving technical advice have been made.

(7) Two training centres are being set up under a U.N. Expert for train-