

raised the issue of arbitrary removal of women employees who complained about facing sexual harassment; and

(c) if so, the details thereof particularly with reference to the status of inquiry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A complaint was forwarded to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting by National Commission for Women, in which the issue of arbitrary termination of women employees who complained about sexual harassment at AIR Stations was also raised. A report in the matter was called from Directorate General: All India Radio and examined in the Ministry. A detailed status note in the matter has been forwarded to National Commission for Women by the Ministry. Prasar Bharati has also separately submitted their findings to National Commission for Women. All the established procedures are being followed in this regard.

#### **Illegal sand mining**

1998. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of widespread illegal activities of sand mining in the country which have led to death of many law enforcement officials and other Government officials;

(b) if so, details of all deaths of law enforcement officials and other Government officials since 2014, year-wise; and

(c) details of measures that Government has taken to deal with the above issues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) Sand is a minor mineral, as defined under Section 3(e) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDR Act). Section 15 of the MMDR Act provides that State Governments have been empowered for making rules for regulating the grant of quarry leases, mining leases or other mineral concessions in respect of minor minerals and for purposes connected therewith.

Further, as per Section 23C of MMDR Act, 1957 State Governments have complete powers to make rules for prevention of illegal mining and for purposes connected therewith. The administration of sand mining is a subject that is completely within the domain of the respective State Governments. Therefore, no data relating to attack/death of the Government officials/law enforcement official is maintained centrally.