aware that the radio transmitter in Jammu is only of one kilowatt and it cannot be heard even locally whereas in the occupied area of Kashmir there is a high-power transmitter which being heard throughout; if so, what steps are being taken to improve the position?

Shri Sham Nath: As far as Jammu and Kashmir Radio Stations are concerned, we intend doing something for improving their power.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Recruitment of Ex-Servicemen

*238. Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: Shri Bhakt Darshan: Shri P. K. Deo: Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have decided to open recruitment of ex-Servicemen to the regular army; and
- (b) if so, since when and the qualifications needed for their re-employment?

The Defence Minister (Shri Y. B. Chavan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Orders regarding the rc-employment of ex-servicemen were issued on the 28th November 1962. All ex-Junior Commissioned Officers, Other Ranks and Non Combatants (Enrolled) bearing 'good' military character and in medical category 'A' are eligible for re-employment or re-enrolment subject to the following maximum age limits:—

Junior Commissioned Officers . 48 years. Other Ranks . 45 years. Non-Combatants

50 years.

T.B. Cases in Sugar Factories

(Enrolled)

*239. Shri A. N. Vidyalankar: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that recently the number of T.B. cases amongst the workers in the sugar factories has increased considerably;
- (b) whether it is due to the inhalation of sugar dust causing bagassosis, that soon develops into T.B.; and
- (c) the steps taken to check the growth of bagassosis and T.B. amongst the workers in sugar factories?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Labour and Employment and for Planning (Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman):
(a) and (c). Information is being collected from the State Governments and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha as soon as it is available.

(b) No. Bagassosis is caused by the dust of Bagasse and not sugar dust. It has not been proved that bagassosis pre-disposes the worker towards Tuberculosis.

National Income

Shri P. K. Deo:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
*240. { Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Gopal Datt Mengi:
Shri Abdul Ghani Goni:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been an increase of 2.2 per cent in India's National Income last year according to the estimate prepared by the Central Statistical Organisation of the Central Cabinet, as against 5 per cent envisaged in the Third Five Year Plan period; and
- (b) if so, the reason for this comparative small increase?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) According to the preliminary estimates of national income just released by the Central Statistical Organisation, the national income at 1948-49 prices increased by 2·1 per cent in 1961-62 over the previous year. Target of increase in national income envisaged in the Third Plan relates to

the five year period as a whole and no separate annual target was fixed for 1961-62.

(b) The rise in national income during 1961-62 was low due mainly to (i) slight fall in agricultural output as compared to the previous year because of the adverse weather conditions, and (ii) the slower rates of growth in the main items of industrial output during the year.

Engines for Supersonic Jet Fighter Aircraft

*241. Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

- (a) how far the Hindustan Aircraft Limited, Bangalore have been successful in their venture to make an engine suited to supersonic fighter aircraft; and
- (b) when it is likely to accomplish its object and complete the first engine?

The Minister of Defence Production in the Ministry of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): (a) Hindustan Aircraft Limited, Bangalore is now engaged in the manufacture of Orpheus 703 engines which power the aircraft HF-24 Mk-I. The Government have also concluded an agreement with the Soviet Authorities for the supply of a few engines initially and for their manufacture in India for powering the Mk-II version of HF-24.

(b) A few Orpheus 703 engines have already been made at HAL. The supply of the Russian engines is due by the end of 1963. Their manufacture in India wil? be taken up in 1964.

Payment of Interim Relief by TISCO and IISCO

*242. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Shri Daji: Shri Indrajit Gupta: Shri Mohammad Elias.

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

- (a) whether TISCO and IISCO have paid the interim relief as recommended by the Iron and Steel Wage Board to the workers:
- (b) if not, the reasons for the delay;
- (c) steps Government propose to take in this matter?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Labour and Employment (Shri R. K. Malviya): (a) and (b). Implementation is reported to be held up for want of clarification of some points in regard to implementation of the Board's recommendations.

(c) The points raised by the parties have been referred to the Wage Board for clarification

Loss due to Chinese Aggression

*243. Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:
Shri Kappen:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

- (a) the estimated value in rupees of our military equipment and stores including food and clothing lost to the Chinese during the recent aggression by Chinese on the Himalayan frontier; and
- (b) the value of such equipment which has been returned to India?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Y B. Chavan): (a) The information is still incomplete. The total of losses suffered is estimated at roughly Rs. 4.01 crores on the basis of material so far available.

(b) Approximately Rs. 50 lakhs.