

years repute, has submitted a 51-page memorandum containing serious charges against the working of A.I.R., Calcutta Station, to the Director General of A.I.R.; and

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has taken place and with what results?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) I understand that a gentleman of that name who claims that he has been an artist for 22 years, has submitted a long memorandum. The artist is not an employee of the All India Radio. His name was on the roll of casual artists who can be booked if and when wanted by the Station. His quality, according to categorisation, was considered to be ordinary.

Mainly his complaint appears to be that he has not been invited to broadcast and he feels that this is due to some grudge by one of the officials of the Station.

In this connection it might be mentioned here that a very large number of artists are on the roll, more especially for light music or Ravindra Sangeet, to which category the applicant belongs. It is not practical to call all of them, or every one of them for broadcasting.

(b) In a case like this, there is no question of result as the artists who are on the roll for casual booking will only be booked by Stations when necessary. I might, however, indicate that every such appeal is carefully looked into and if the applicant merits, his grievances if genuine are rectified to the extent possible.

Manufacture of Salt

*376. { Shri Agadi:
Shri Sugandhi:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union Government have directed the Andhra Pradesh Government not to issue any more licences for the manufacture of salt;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any other States have been directed not to issue salt manufacturing licences; and

(d) if so, the names of such States?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Yes, Sir. The Andhra Pradesh Government were requested in November, 1958 not to issue fresh leases of their lands for salt manufacture, and to consider exceptional cases in consultation with the technical adviser, namely, the Salt Commissioner.

(b) Over-production of salt.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Maharashtra, Gujerat and Madras.

Construction Works in Ladakh by Chinese

*377. Shri Hem Barua: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chinese have undertaken various construction works in the part of Ladakh occupied by them;

(b) if so, whether Government have any information about the nature of these works; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) to (c). Government have no definite information on the subject.

Mining Boards

*378. Shri Jhulan Sinha: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the failure of the Mining Boards constituted under the Mines Act, 1952 to meet even once during the years 1956 to 1958;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to take suitable measures to make them function properly; and