

**Status of Belgaum City**

2068 **PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR:** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government are aware that stalemate and tension both continue between the peoples and the Governments of Karnataka and Maharashtra on the question of the status of Belgaum city and other neighbouring border areas;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take any fresh and prompt initiatives in the matter with a view to arriving at a reasonably satisfactory reconciliation of the problem;

(c) if so, how and when; and

(d) if not, why not?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S D PATIL):** (a) to (d). The Government are aware of claims and counter claims on this issue. However, as stated in reply to Unstarred Question No 1242 on 23 November 1977, the Government do not consider the present to be the opportune time to take up this matter unless the State Governments concerned come up with mutually acceptable proposals.

**Regularisation of Staff and Casual Artistes**

2069 **PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are taking concrete and effective steps to regularise the services of casual artistes or contract staff or both working in All India Radio as well as on the Doordarshan all over the country,

(b) if so, broad details thereof,

(c) if not, why not,

(d) is it a fact that station Directors of AIR and TV at various centres are giving a break in service by giving

break to casual artistes and/or contract staff after every 14 days; and

(e) if so, whether Government are not going back on their promise regarding regularising the said staff?

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI):** (a) to (c). Normally, casual artistes are engaged on short-term contract, to meet specified programme needs. Therefore, ordinarily, the question of their regularisation does not arise.

However, some casual artistes have been working as such in Akashvani and Doordarshan for the past some years. After careful consideration, a proposal has been formulated that those who have worked for a total period of 365 days during the previous three financial years or have worked for 240 days in any one of these years, may be considered for regularisation subject to their being other-wise suitable in all respects and all the concerned competent authorities agreeing to the proposal. The total number of such eligible casual artistes is 137 (Akashvani 62; Doordarshan-75).

(d) The normal time span of contract of casual artistes is 14 days. Generally it is not a continuous one.

(e) No, Sir

**Working of Khadi and Gramodyog Commission**

2070. **PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the working of the Khadi and Gramodyog Commission in the country is getting increasingly expensive, inefficient and generally far from satisfactory;

(b) if so, steps being taken by Government to rectify and improve the situation; and

(c) whether Government propose any changes in policy and/or personnel of the said Khadi and Gramodyog