

(b) the reasons for the delay in giving the connections; and

(c) the steps taken to expedite the connections?

The Minister of State in the Department of Parliamentary Affairs and Communications (Shri I. K. Gujral): (a) Nil. The earliest application on the waiting list is dated 1-7-65.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The capacity of exchange is 2800 lines and working connections are 2485. The waiting list is 811. The exchange is being expanded to 4200. After the work is completed, the entire waiting list will be progressively cleared.

Cauvery Spinning and Weaving Mills Ltd., Cauverynagar (Madras)

3893. Shri K. Ramani:
Shri Umanath;
Shri C. K. Chakrapani:
Shri P. Gopalan:

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

(a) whether any stock of yarn and other mill properties belonging to the Cauvery Spinning and Weaving Mills Ltd. Cauverynagar, Madras State, was sealed in pursuance of action for recovery of Provident Fund arrears, by the Provident Fund authorities;

(b) if so, the extent of the arrears and the period over which the accumulation accrued;

(c) whether the sealed properties have since been released;

(d) if so, the reasons for the release;

(e) whether the arrears have since been paid; and

(f) if not, the action proposed for recovery?

The Minister of Labour and Rehabilitation (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes.

(b) Rs. 4,30,836.15 for the period November, 1968 to March, 1967.

(c) Yes.

(d) The attachment order was withdrawn on the assurance given by the management that the provident fund arrears would be paid within a month's time.

(e) Not yet.

(f) Revenue recovery proceedings under section 8 of the Employees' Provident Funds Act 1952, have already been initiated. Proposals for prosecution of the employer have also been sent to the State Government.

Balangir-Sonepur Telephone Line

3894. Shri K. P. Singh Deo:
Shri Dhirendranath:
Shri P. K. Deo:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the telephone line between Balangir and Sonepur remains out of order for most of the time; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to set the line in order?

The Minister of State in the Department of Parliamentary Affairs and Communications (Shri I. K. Gujral): (a) Breakdowns have been very few, except during May, 1967, when extensive damage was caused to the trunk line on 23rd May, 1967 due to a heavy storm.

(b) Does not arise.

Correspondence Courses in Universities

3895. Shri Vasudevrao Nair:
Shri C. Janardhanam:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the number of students enrolled in each university for correspondence courses in 1966;