

**DEVELOPMENT OF BACKWARD AREAS OF ORISSA**

\*600. SHRI A. DIPA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that Phullani, Kalahandi and Bolangir Districts in Orissa State are backward areas;

(b) whether it is a fact that some time back, Government proposed to spend about Rs. 40 crores for the development of these districts under the special area development scheme;

(c) if so, the amount spent on the development of this area out of that fund; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

**THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) :**

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Government allocated an amount Rs. 16.2 crores for the accelerated development of these areas during the five-year period, 1966-71.

(c) Information is awaited from the State Government.

(d) Does not arise.

**A.I.R. ARTISTES**

3678. SHRI K. M. KOUSHIK : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the nature of service of the A.I.R. artistes in the country;

(b) whether the service conditions are the same as in all the Radio stations in the country; and

(c) whether the artistes have any forum to represent against the termination of their services by the Station Directors ?

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. K. SHAH) :** (a) Hitherto, Staff

Artistes of All India Radio were employed on renewable contracts normally for a period of 5 years at a time. Recently, this has been replaced by a letter of appointment extending their service upto the age of 55 years. This is further extendable up to the age of 58 years at the discretion of Government and, in very exceptional cases, up to the age of 60 years.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The normal avenue for redress of grievances is always open to a Staff Artiste in the same way as it is available to other employees of A.I.R. A Staff Artiste can always represent his case to the Director General, All India Radio, for redress. He may also make an appeal to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in case he is not satisfied with the decision of the Director General.

**INDIAN COMMUNIST LEADERS GONE ABROAD**

3679. SHRI BABURAO PATEL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of Indian Communist Party leaders who went to U.S.S.R. and the East European countries during the last three years ending October, 1967;

(b) the reasons for these leaders making these foreign trips; and

(c) the foreign exchange allotted to each leader per trip ?

**THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) :** (a) to (c). The required information is being collected and will be paid on the Table of the House as soon as it becomes available.

**MAHARASHTRA SCHEMES FOR INCLUSION IN FOURTH PLAN**

3680. SHRI DEORAO PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Maharashtra Govern-