

projects and issues relating to the counter guarantee, and decisions are taken with a view to ensuring that work commences on these projects at the earliest.

Appointments made by CSIR

5711. SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUÉ: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether CSIR has any cohesive policy for manpower management including planning recruitment, deployment and promotion;

(b) if so, whether the laboratories under CSIR have made unauthorised appointments over and above the sanctioned strength;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any plan has been drawn up by the CSIR to induct non-technical personnel into technical grades; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No Sir. Infact out of the total sanctioned strength of 25764 as on date, only about 22000 employees are in position.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) Induction of Non-Technical staff into Technical stream is made strictly as per the methodology duly approved by the Governing Body of CSIR. Induction is made on the basis of recommendations of a duly constituted Committee after imparting necessary in-house training which is followed by a technical trade test.

Radio on Demand Service

5712. SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether All India Radio has started any "Radio on Demand Service" recently; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir. It was launched on 26th January, 1998 on the 2nd FM transmitter of All India Radio, Delhi.

(b) The Radio on Demand Service is an interactive service which has been developed indigenously. It is a computer recording and automatic playback system to process the listener's requests and feed the requested music programme on the transmitter automatically without any kind of human intervention. A huge library of popular film songs has been created on a Computer hard disc and each song has been assigned a code number. These code numbers have been circulated among the public through printed leaflets. The listener can register his request through a telephone call by dialing the telephone No. 7465228, followed by dialing the code number corresponding to his/her choice song. His/her request is automatically registered by the computerised system and the listener is intimated a queue-number accordingly over the telephone by the computerised system. The song is then played automatically at the given queue-number and the listener can listen to the song of his/her choice over FM radio (Frequency 106.4 MHz).

[Translation]

Pay and Pension Cases in Bihar

5713. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of pay and pension anomaly cases are pending in Bihar Telecom Circle;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the time by which these are likely to be settled; and

(d) the action being taken by the Government against the officer responsible for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Nil.

(c) N/A

(d) Question does not arise.