

**THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):** (a) and (b). The paper on compulsory English which is of matriculation standard, is only qualifying in nature and does not count for competitive ranking. However a Committee of Experts appointed by the U.P.S.C. has been asked to examine this question and give their recommendation.

#### **Posting of Husband and Wife at the Same Station**

3083. **SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any orders to the effect that if both husband and wife are in Government Service, they should be posted at the same station;

(b) if so, the number of applications received in various Ministries during last four months regarding the posting of husband and wife at the same station;

(c) whether it is also a fact that transfer on medical grounds has been given first priority while the priority has not been given to the provisions of the said order; and

(d) if so, the manner in which Government propose to make effective the said order?

**THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):** (a) Government have issued guidelines for posting of husband and wife, who are employees of Central Government/State Government/Central Public Undertakings, together, at the same station, as far as possible, within the constraints of administrative feasibility.

(b) to (d). The administrative authorities responsible for transfer and posting of employees in Government Department,

Public Sector Undertakings are competent to decide etc. at the same station as per the guidelines. The information regarding number of applications received in various Ministries in this regard is not available in this Ministry. This Ministry is not aware that requests for transfer on medical ground are being given a higher priority over requests for transfer on the ground of posting of husband and wife at the same station.

[English]

#### **Medicinal Plants Facing Extinction**

3084. **SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Botanical Survey of India brings out a report every year giving details of medicinal plants facing extinction;

(b) whether such plants are exported;

(c) if so, at what price; and

(d) whether any efforts are being made to preserve and process these plants before exporting?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI):**

(a) The Botanical Survey of India brings out periodically volumes called Red Data Book giving details of endangered species of plants. These also include medicinal plants. So far 3 volumes of Red Data Book have been published—one each in 1987, 1988 and 1990.

(b) Highly endangered species of plants including medicinal plants are placed periodically in Appendix-I of Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species