

Shri Raj Bahadur: I am not aware of the tales that the people who are behind the strike are spreading in Pakistan because we do not get the information from Pakistan.

Shri C. K. Bhattacharya: These are reported in the Calcutta Press.

Recruitment to the Army

S. N. Q. 5, Dr. L. M. Singhvi: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether any recruitment targets have been fixed or finalised recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have received any complaints of favouritism in recruitment; and

(d) whether it is proposed to relax the prescribed requirements for recruitment in the present situation of emergency?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Y. B. Chavan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is regretted that it will not be in the public interest to give the details.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Some relaxations have been made in the physical standards and upper age-limits for recruitment. No other relaxation is under consideration.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: What concessions and facilities are to be provided by the Universities and other such institutions to those who may be wishing to join the Defence Forces and whether any attempts have been made to frame these proposals for Concessions and facilities on a uniform basis so that they may be available to all students of all universities equally?

Shri Y. B. Chavan: There are no such concessions. The question is not for giving students concessions as

such. The question was about the recruitment to the army in general.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: Recently, the Vice Chancellor of the Madras University had announced that several concessions and facilities would be extended to those wishing to join the Defence Forces. Are these concessions to be implemented on a uniform basis all over the country?

Mr. Speaker: That may be done by the Vice Chancellors or other university authorities.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: It is not to be done merely by individual universities. I am asking whether Government have decided to take any steps in the direction of making rules or giving concessions uniformly all over the country. It is not to be done by a single Vice Chancellor only; it is to be done by all the universities at the instance of the Government of India. Have the Government taken such a step?

Shri Y. B. Chavan: Whatever suggestions may be made by the different Vice Chancellors can certainly be considered.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member says that one Vice Chancellor makes some announcement or observation giving certain concessions. Can Government extend them to the others?

Shri Y. B. Chavan: I am not aware of any such statement and even if somebody makes a statement like that I do not know how it can be binding on the Government.

श्री भक्त वंशन : श्रीमान्, क्या शासन के ध्यान में यह बात आई है कि यद्यपि रिजर्विंग आर्गुमेंट को यह आदेश दिया गया है कि अधिक से अधिक संख्या में भरती की जाए, फिर भी बहुत से सौजवानों को निराश होकर लौटना पड़ रहा है ? यदि हाँ, तो क्या हम सम्बन्ध में कुछ प्रकाश डाला जाएगा ?

श्री यशवन्त राव चव्हाण : हां, यह ठीक बात है। लेकिन उनको शारीरिक योग्यता के जो निर्बन्ध हैं, उनका तो पालन करना चाहिये।

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Have any representations been received from either individuals or organisations requesting Government to raise the upper age-limit for emergency commissions from 35 to 40 and, if so, has Government considered the matter favourably or is considering it?

Shri Y. B. Chavan: Even at the present moment, really speaking, the age-limit for emergency commissions has been raised; it is 35 now.

Shri Frank Anthony: Is it a fact that although many universities do not have the Intermediate as a qualification, the Defence Ministry has fixed the Intermediate qualification as the minimum for an emergency commission, and thereby shutting out all the people who have done the PUC, Senior Cambridge and first-class material from the public schools?

Shri Y. B. Chavan: Intermediate or its equivalent is the minimum qualification.

Shri Frank Anthony: What I am asking is this; is it a fact that you have prescribed the Intermediate as the minimum qualification, although the Intermediate is not now subscribed to by many universities, and therefore you are now shutting out all the PUC people, the Senior Cambridge boys and all the first-class material from the public schools for emergency commissions?

Shri Y. B. Chavan: I will have to look into it.

Shri Ranga: What steps are being taken by Government in view of this emergency to get into touch with the universities and suggest to them the various concessions that are being made and ask for their co-operation in providing as many recruits as possible for the various ranks in the army?

Shri Y. B. Chavan: It is a suggestion for action and I would certainly look into it.

Shri Ranga: What is the answer? We would like the hon. Minister to be a little louder.

Mr. Speaker: I will ask him.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: Sir, on a point of order. He must say whether any steps have been taken so far: not that he will look into it. If it is only a suggestion for action, then he can look into it. But the hon. Member is asking whether the Government have done anything in the matter. We want to know what the Government have done.

Mr. Speaker: If it is only a suggestion for action, certainly he will consider it. What else can he say at this moment?

Shri Iqbal Singh: May I know whether some examinations for the permanent commission were taken and the results have not yet been out and some examination is being cancelled, and whether some consideration will be given to those persons who have appeared in the examination and have passed?

Shri Y. B. Chavan: It is a different question, Sir.

12.14 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

SUPPLY OF MIGs

श्री बागड़ों (दिसार) : मैं नियम १९७ के अन्तर्गत रक्षा मन्त्री का ध्यान निम्न अविलम्बनीय लोक महत्व के विषय की ओर आकृष्ट करता हूँ और चाहता हूँ कि वह इस सम्बन्ध में अपना वक्तव्य दें :—

“भारत को मिग विमान देने में अपना प्रसमर्थता व्यक्त करते हुए रुख