

Mr. Speaker: I have already given her a chance.

Shrimati Lakshmi Kantamma: I am not asking a question.

Mr. Speaker: No. Shri P. C. Borooah.

Shri P. C. Borooah: May I know whether Government's attention has been drawn to the deliberate distortion of reports by this section of the press to the effect that there were as many casualties on the Delhi roads during the black-outs as on the fighting front; if so, whether Government have banned the circulation of this particular issue of the paper?

Shri L. M. Mishra: We have seen all these reports. We are unnecessarily giving publicity to what appears in the press.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: May I draw the Minister's attention to a report which appeared in the Calcutta Statesman of 8th October which says that copies of *Newsweek*, an American Weekly, which arrived in Calcutta by air for sale were detained by the customs officials at Dum Dum because the Weekly was alleged to contain an article likely to encourage communal and anti-Indian sentiments? I want to know why this particular issue, which was detained on these grounds by the customs officials, was subsequently released and was allowed to be sold freely and distributed in this country?

Shri L. N. Mishra: I am not aware of this particular question. I require notice for this.

Shri Kapur Singh: Do Government regard every utterance not applauding Government's action and policy as anti-Indian; if not, who is to judge the matter and how?

Shri L. N. Mishra: The people at large, the democracy itself, will judge.

Mr. Speaker: Next question. Shri Yashpal Singh.

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : एक सवाल मुझे कर देने दें ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आपका नाम सब से पहले या धीरे मैंने आपको सब से पहले बुलाया था । लेकिन आप मौजूद नहीं थे ।

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : इतना अफसोस है मुझ को कि मैं बयान नहीं कर सकता हूँ । अगर एक . . .

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अब मैं मजबूर हूँ । दूसरे सवाल पर जब मैं चला जाता हूँ तो कभी मैंने ऐसा नहीं किया है । अगर आप करावें तो यह सारा डिपारचर हो जाएगा उससे ।

Stagnation in Assistants' and Clerks' Grades in the Central Sectt.

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*717. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:**
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri Kapur Singh:
Shri Warior:
Shri Daji:
Shri Eswara Reddy:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Assistants, Upper Division Clerks and Lower Division Clerks with more than 10 years of service in that grade have not yet been promoted in the Central Secretariat;

(b) if so, whether stagnation in their grades is the maximum; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to remove the hardship experienced by those Assistants and Clerks?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri L. N. Mishra): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The total strength of the grades of Assistant, U.D.C. and L.D.C. in the Secretariat and attached offices is as follows:—

Assistants	5,500 (approx)
Upper Division Clerks	3,000 (-do-)
Lower Division Clerks	10,000 (-do-)

Appointments to the various grades of the Central Secretariat Services are

made against the specified number of duty posts sanctioned from time to time. Accordingly, promotions could be made only against vacancies in the respective grades as and when they become available. It is true that in each grade there are persons who have put in 10 years or more service and who have not had an opportunity for promotion. But, as stated earlier, promotion is not automatic and depends upon the availability of vacancies. According to available information, there are 64 Assistants, 151 Upper Division Clerks and 200 Lower Division Clerks who have reached the maximum of the pay scales of their grades but compared to the total number of duty posts in those grades, it cannot be said that stagnation in these grades is great. However, with a view to improving the prospects of promotion of persons with long years of service, direct recruitment to the grades of Section Officer and Assistant has been temporarily reduced and direct recruitment to the grade of U.D.C. has altogether been abolished.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Sir, I rise on a point of order. Actually, the question asks whether it is a fact that Assistants, Upper Division Clerks etc. with more than 10 years of service...

Mr. Speaker: I have read it.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: In the statement an effort has been made by Government to say "Those people who are in the maximum grade". There is an attempt to suppress the real information from this House. If you will kindly allow me, I will give you the correct information.

Mr. Speaker: I will allow him an opportunity to ask a supplementary.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: That you will.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या यह सही है कि इस समय कोई चार हजार के लगभग ऐसे कर्मीयों और असिस्टेंट्स हैं जिन का दस साल से अधिक सर्विस करते हुए हो गए है, यदि हां तो उन लोगों के भविष्य के लिए सरकार क्या

सोच रही है ? अगर इकोनोमी की बात हो तो नया रिक्तमेंट क्यों हो रहा है और कौन इनके भविष्य के लिये जिम्मेवार है ?

श्री ल० ना० मिश्र : मैंने तो ठीक बात कही। उन लोगों की संख्या 4,000 नहीं है। जो वक्तव्य मैंने दिया है उस में लिखा है लगभग 400। लेकिन अगर और सब लोगों को जोड़ लें तो करीब 2400 बन जाते हैं जो कि इस तरह से हैं। लेकिन जहां तक रिक्तमेंट को बन्द करने का सवाल है, अगर हम ऐसा करें तो नये और नौजवान लोग नहीं आ सकेंगे और सेक्रेटेरियट में पुराने और बूढ़े लोग ही रह जायेंगे। फिर भी हम ने नियमों में थोड़ा परिवर्तन कर दिया है। पहले 75 परसेन्ट रिक्तमेंट बाहर से होता था उस को बाद में 50 परसेन्ट किया और आगे चल कर 25 परसेन्ट किया गया। इस रेशियो से अब 75 परसेन्ट आदमी डिपार्टमेंट से प्रमोशन पायेंगे। लेकिन शेष रिक्तमेंट की गुंजाइश जरूर रहनी चाहिये ताकि कुछ तो फेश ब्लड प्रा सके।

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या सरकार ने यह ध्यान किया है कि चारों तरफ जो इनफ्लिगिणसी बढ़ी है वह सिर्फ इसलिये है कि काम करने वालों को कोई इन्सेन्टिव नहीं मिल रहा है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस के लिये कौन जिम्मेदार है।

श्री ल० ना० मिश्र : यह कहना गलत है कि इन्सेन्टिव नहीं है। लेकिन यह बात सही है कि नीचे के तबके के जो कर्मचारी हैं उन की हालत अच्छी नहीं है। इस को मैं मानता हूँ। उस हालत को सुधारने के लिये ही नियमों को रिवाइज किया गया है जैसे कि एन० डी० सी० और ए० डी० सी० जो है वह स्टैन्डार्डफॉर कि एग्जामिनेशन के लिये 35 वर्ष की उम्र तक जा सकते हैं जो कि पहले 24 वर्ष था। इस तरह ने हम ने कोशिश की है लेकिन जितना टॉटा चाहिये उतना नहीं हो सका है। फिर भी हम प्रयास कर रहे हैं।

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I would like to know whether it is a fact that 2,200 Lower Division Clerks and 800 Upper Division Clerks, who have put in more than ten years of service and are overdue for promotion, are stagnating in those particular grades, and if so, may I know whether the Government contemplate to appoint a Committee to investigate into this, i.e., why there is this stagnation, or whether they have in mind to abolish these grades and merge them into one?

Shri L. N. Mishra: Instead of 2,400 it may be 2,800. I'm not sure about it.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: That was my point of order, Sir. I am not requesting him to give the quantity of wheat supplied under P.L. 480. I have asked for the specific number of Assistants, Upper Division Clerks and Lower Division Clerks. Here, even in the statement, it has been stated:

"Assistants 5,500 approximately."

What does he mean by 'approximately'? They do not know even the specific number of Assistants, UDCs and LDCs?

Mr. Speaker: He has given the figure, 2400.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: No, there are 2,200.

Mr. Speaker: He says that he might look into it again.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: That is not the thing.

Mr. Speaker: Now he might put his question. There is no point of order.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: It should be laid on the Table. Information should not be suppressed from this House.

Mr. Speaker: If he writes to me, then certainly I will.....

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I want to know whether there are 2,200 L.D.C.s and 800 U.D.C.s, who have put in more

than ten years of service and who have been rotting on the maximum without any further promotion and if so, whether Government have taken any decision to combine these two grades and open further venues of promotion or appoint a Commission to investigate in to it.

सम्बन्धित महोदय : कमिशन इसमें क्या करेगा ।

Shri L. N. Mishra: According to the information available here, they are about 2,400....

Mr. Speaker: He is also referring to some publication. That must also be of Government. He may, therefore, check up.

Shri L. N. Mishra: Regarding the question of appointment of a Committee, this has been agitating our mind for sometime past. We are aware of the difficulties and problems of the employees of these classes. We have received a number of representations from their organisations also. I might mention here that there is a proposal under consideration....

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Active consideration?

Shri L. N. Mishra:..to set up a Committee to look into the grievances and suggest remedial measures. The Committee is proposed to consist of the Establishment Officer to the Government of India and representatives, one each, from the Ministries of Defence, Finance and the Department of Administrative Reforms. The Ministry of Home Affairs is in touch with the respective Ministries and I hope this Committee will be set up soon.

Shri Kapur Singh: Do Government properly appreciate that promotional stagnation is just another name for 'de-incentivisation' which invariably leads to de-efficiency?

Shri L. N. Mishra: On the question of promotion, if there are no vacancies how can we promote them?

There are two reasons why they are not getting promotions for some time past; one is raising of the retirement age from 55 to 58; the second is adoption of economy measures. That is the reason why some of the openings have, of course, been closed.

Shri Kapur Singh: He has not answered my question, but he has answered something else.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Kapur Singh has given a process whereby all this leads to inefficiency such as decentivisation and another 'de..', perhaps dehydration or something like that.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: May I know how long this committee is going to take to give its final verdict? What are the terms of reference of this committee which will decide the fate of these clerks, lower division as well as upper division clerks?

Shri L. N. Mishra: The terms of reference have not been finalised, but we have asked them to complete the report within three months.

Shri Warrior: May I know whether it is a fact that Government have imposed a ban on the promotion of clerks in the Secretariat whereas they are not imposing such ban on the first grade officers, and if so, the reasons therefor?

Shri L. N. Mishra: No ban has been imposed, but the point is that, some new posts are not being filled, and new appointments are not being made for reasons of economy, and this has resulted in the closing of some of the openings.

Shri Kapur Singh: There is a written ban.

Shri A. P. Sharma: Is this stagnation due to inadequate chances of promotion or due to some other reasons? If it is due to inadequate chances of promotion, are Government contemplating to increase the higher grade posts?

Shri L. N. Mishra: No; as I have said we can increase these posts only

if there is need. If hon. Members want only to increase the number of posts in the higher grade....

Shri A. P. Sharma: The higher grade posts should be increased on a percentage basis in every Department.

Shri L. N. Mishra:...and if they want that all these 18,000 people should be promoted, then it will be difficult for us.

श्री जगदेव सिंह सिद्धाग्नी : भारत सरकार का ऐसा कौन सा मंत्रालय है जिसमें असिस्टेंटों और दोनों प्रकार के क्लर्कों की पदोन्नति न करने का सब से अधिक दुस्प्रभाव पड़ा है ?

श्री ल० ना० मिश्र : इस के लिये सूचना चाहिये ।

श्री काशी राम गुप्त : क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि जिन लोगों की तरक्की नहीं हुई है उन में अधिकतर ऐसे लोग हैं जिन के छ: छ:, सात सात बच्चे हो गये हैं और उनकी घामदनी 20 रु० फी घामदमी से अधिक नहीं रही है । यदि ऐसा है तो क्या सरकार उन के लिये कोई विशेष भत्ता देने की बात सोच रही है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : क्या मेम्बर साहब का कहना है कि एक तरफ तरक्की नहीं हो रही है तो दूसरी तरफ तरक्की हुई है ।

श्री काशी राम गुप्त : मेरा कहना यह है कि चूंकि उन की 20 रु० फी घामदमी से अधिक घामदनी नहीं है इसलिये उन में इनएफिशिएंसी भा गई है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : क्या आप इसको इस से कनेक्ट कर रहे हैं कि जिन की पहले तरक्की हो चुकी है उन के पहले से छ: बच्चे हैं? धनमा सवाल ।