

(c) if so, the reasons for the same?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) No Sir

(b) and (c) Do not arise

Prize Bonds Scheme

*141 **Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri**
Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the scheme to issue prize bonds to provide greater incentive to savings among all classes of people has been given up,

(b) if so the reasons therefor

(c) whether any alternative scheme has been formulated and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha) (a) and (b) As was stated in reply to Unstarred Question No 1404 on the 3rd September 1958, Government have no proposal for the issue of prize bonds. The main objections to prize bonds are that they encourage the gambling spirit, appeal mostly to people who are least likely to find money from legitimate savings and affect adversely the normal borrowings of the Centre and the States and the voluntary savings movement. They are also not likely to bring substantial additional moneys and collections through them would mostly represent diversion of investment from one form of security to another

(c) and (d) There are already a number of attractive small saving schemes in operation and a new one called the 'Post Office Cumulative Time Deposits Scheme' was introduced last month. This scheme provides for monthly deposits in fixed denominations of Rs 5 to Rs 200 for a period of 5 or 10 years, repayable with interest at the end of that period

Assistant Commissioners for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

*149. { **Shri B. K. Gaikwad:**
Shri Manay:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had decided sometime back to increase the posts of Assistant Commissioners for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes from 7 to 18,

(b) whether they have not been appointed so far, and

(c) if so reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva). (a) Yes

(b) Three Assistant Commissioners were in addition to seven appointed of whom the services of one have since been terminated

(c) No further appointments were made as a measure of economy

Promotion Rules

150 { **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:**
Shri Rameshwar Tanti.

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state

(a) what effect has been given to the Prime Minister's suggestion that promotion to the higher grades should be on the basis of merit,

(b) what are the present rules and how these are proposed to be amended to give effect to it, and

(c) how many promotions during 1958-59 were made on grounds of merit and not seniority in respect of the officers of the rank of Deputy Secretaries and above?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri G. B. Pant): (a) and (b) Selections are based primarily on the basis of merit and promotions are regulated