

(c) The selection of candidates is made primarily on the basis of

- (i) Officer-like qualities;
- (ii) Pilot aptitude.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know what was the total number of vacancies notified and the number of those selected?

Shri Tyagi: I am sorry I have not got the figures ready as to the total number of vacancies notified; but the selection was made according to requirements and sometimes the selection of a greater number of candidates than are required is also made.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: May I know if any selections are made outside the candidates who sit for the examination, without any written examination?

Shri Tyagi: Sir, I have said there are two methods of selection. One is through the Public Service Commission when they come and sit for the competitive examination. After they pass that examination their names are forwarded to the Selection Board who again interview them and give them marks. These marks are sent back to the Public Service Commission so that they add the two marks—obtained at the two places—and make a list according to merits, out of which the selection is made. This is one batch which goes to the Joint Services Wing for training. Another batch is selected by the Selection Board for direct recruitment to the Academy.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether any scheduled caste or scheduled tribe candidates are selected; if so, what is their number?

Shri Tyagi: No distinction of caste or creed is made in this selection.

Shri Velayudhan: On a point of order, Sir. He said that he does not discriminate between candidates in the matter of selection...

Mr. Speaker: He can take it at the end of the hour. I will hear him.

I.A.F. SELECTION BOARD, DEHRA DUN

***1057. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** (a) Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state who are the Members of the I.A.F. Selection Board at Dehra Dun during 1953?

(b) Have certain allegations of nepotism and provincialism against some of the members of the Selection Board come to the notice of Government?

(c) If so, what action have Government taken on these allegations?

The Minister of Defence Organisation (Shri Tyagi): (a) I.A.F. Selection Board at Dehra, Dun is composed of:—

President—Wg. Cdr. S. W. Bobb.

Dy. President—Sq. Ldr. S. S. Sawhney.

Senior Group Testing Officer—
Sq. Ldr. S. P. Sen.

Group Testing Officers—Flt. Lt. M. B. Athale; Flt. Lt. V. P. Bhasin; Flt. Lt. P. N. Bhatia; Flt. Lt. P. S. Murthy; Flt. Lt. A. Almeida.

Psychologist Officer—Fg. Off. K. N. Randeria.

(b) and (c). An allegation made in one instance was enquired into and found baseless. No action was therefore warranted.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know if a complaint was made that in the 1952 selection nobody from the South was selected?

Mr. Speaker: The only question is whether a complaint was made.

Shri Tyagi: I have not got the list of all the complaints made from time to time. The question pertains to allegations with regard to cases of nepotism. There was only one such complaint which was proved to be false.

Shri Nanadas: May I know whether the Defence Ministry has given any instructions to the Selection Board to consider the cases of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes liberally?

Shri Tyagi: Yes, Sir. It is always the case in regard to recruitments. They are required to see that as far as possible their recruitment is encouraged.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Were there any cases in which the candidates after being selected by the Selection Board and having undergone courses for a year or two were expelled because they did not possess officer-like qualities?

Shri Tyagi: That is true, Sir. Candidates during the course of their education are also rejected. But they do not lose their educational career because all the Universities have agreed that the two years of the Joint Services Wing course will be taken as equivalent to the Intermediate classes of their Universities. Therefore, when they are rejected they do not lose their educational career.

G. D. PILOT COURSE IN THE I. A. F.

*1058. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** (a) Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether it is a fact that recently Government required 40 candidates for the 64th G. D. (Pilot) course in the I.A.F.?

(b) If so, how many candidates were called for interview by the I.A.F. Selection Board, Dehra Dun for this course and how many were selected?

(c) Was the course conducted according to the original schedule?

The Minister of Defence Organisation (Shri Tyagi): (a) Yes.

(b) Number of candidates called for interview—335.

Number of candidates selected by I.A.F. Selection Board—83.

(c) Yes. The course commenced on 1st June 1953, the scheduled date.

CENTRAL SALT RESEARCH STATION

*1062. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to refer to the reply to starred question No. 641 asked on the 10th March, 1953 and state:

(a) whether the proposed Central Salt Research Station according to the Five Year Plan has now been established;

(b) if not, how far the attempts have proceeded;

(c) the estimated cost of the Station; and

(d) whether any site has been selected?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Rs. 5,12,000.

(d) Yes, Sir, at Bhavnagar in Saurashtra.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know what are the precise functions of this Research Institute?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The function of this Research Institute is to carry on research on the refinement of the salt that is supplied to the nation, improve upon existing processes of manufacture and also to examine the utility of the by-products that are produced in the process of refining and manufacturing salt.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether any new process for the manufacture of salt is being taken up by the Institute?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The work has only very recently been started with a nucleus staff. It will take some time before we can have a concrete picture of our programme.