डा॰ काटजू: मैं न इधर कह सकता हूं, न उधर कह सकता हूं। मेरे ख्याल में बहुत ज्यादा हैं। आपने सही बात नहीं कही। मैं सही तो नहीं कह सकता, लेकिन मेरे पास कुछ फ़िगर्स हैं

So far 33 persons have been nominated as Assistants and 203 persons have been nominated as clerks under this concession.

Shri M. R. Krishna: May I know the conditions governing the promotion of scheduled caste government servants? I want to know whether they are given any special consideration in regard to promotion.

Dr. Katju: I have answered this question during the last six weeks several times. One concession has been the relaxation of the age-limit. The other concession has been, by executive instructions, that they should be dealt with intelligently.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know if even after five years of temporary service the scheduled caste employees are not made quasi-permanent?

Dr. Katju: I would request the iron Member to put a specific question. I shall then be in a position to give a specific answer.

Shri Veeraswamy: May I know how many scheduled caste men are working as gazetted officers in the Central Government Secretariat?

Dr. Katju: I ask my hon, friend to have some mercy on me. It is really not possible for me to say just how many scheduled caste officers are there in the Central Secretariat.

Mr. Speaker: I am going to the next question.

TELEGRAPH ENGINEERING AND WIRELESS SERVICES

\*1971. Shri Tushar Chatterjea: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) the general system of promotion of officers of the Telegraph Engineering and Wireless Service class II to T.E.S. class I;
- (b) whether there has been any case of promotion where the usual system was not followed; and
- (c) whether there was any deputation of the said officers waiting on the Ministry of Communications in this connection and if so, the result?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Officers of the Telegraph Engineering Service. Class II. are promoted to the Telegraph Engineering Service. Class I. on the principle of selection by merit, on the recommendations of a Departmental Promotion Committee and with the approval of the Union Public Service Commission.

## (b) No.

(c) Yes. The deputation was informed that the existing system was working satisfactorily. It was, however, invited to furnish details of any other method which it considered more suitable.

Shri Tushar Chatterjea: May I know whether it is a fact that some of the promotions made to Class I vacancies were not according to the rules and complaints were lodged against them by the officers concerned?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Unless specific cases are pointed out, it is very difficult for me to say anything.

Shri Tushar Chatterjea: May I know whether this scheme of promotion is in conformity with the recommendations of the Central Pay Commission?

Shri Raj Bahadur: There is an established convention and practice governed by certain prescribed rules and that is the way in which promotions take place.

Shri Nambiar: May I know whether these promotions are according to strict seniority, of course in consonance with the minimum qualification required?

Shri Raj Bahadur: For Class I posts, promotions are made strictly on the basis of merit, and when qualifications are equal seniority comes into play.

Shri Raghavaiah: May I know whether there is any relaxation in the principles adopted for promotion in relation to scheduled caste employees in this Department also?

Shri Raj Bahadur: There is no relaxation of rules so far as Class I posts are concerned.

Mr. Speaker: He is asking in relation to scheduled caste employees.

Shri Raj Bahadur: I know, Sir. There is no relaxation. The cases are decided on merits.