

Service, fixation of their seniority for the purpose of confirmation in the Upper Division, lowering of the prescribed speed of 40 words per minute in Typewriting to qualify for additional increments and the grant of exemption to certain categories of clerks from the Typing Test for confirmation in the Lower Division grade. Orders have been passed and communicated to the Association already regretting Government's inability to accede to these requests.

(c) No overtime work allowance is at present admissible to clerks and, as such the question of its payment in time along with the pay does not arise.

Assistants Cadre

317. **Shri Velayudhan:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Assistants cadre is being increased in strength; and

(b) if so, whether it is being done by direct recruitment or through promotion?

The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) The authorised permanent strength of Grade IV (Assistants) of the Central Secretariat Service was refixed, after a review, at 3,000 with effect from the 1st January, 1956. There is no proposal now under consideration for any further increase.

(b) In accordance with the provisions of the Central Secretariat Service (Reorganisation and Reinforcement) Scheme, 75% of the vacancies arising after the initial constitution of the service are to be filled by direct recruitment on the results of Competitive Examinations held by the Union Public Service Commission and 25% by promotion from the Clerical Grades.

Corruption in Excise Department

318. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints of corruption received against the officers of Central Excise Department during the year 1956 so far;

(b) the number of complaints which have so far been enquired into and finalised; and

(c) the number of officers punished as a result of these complaints?

The Minister of Finance and Iron and Steel (Shri T.T. Krishnamachari):

(a) 493

(b) 221.

(c) 24.

Welfare Extension Projects in Punjab

319. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the places where Welfare Extension projects have been started by the central Social Welfare Board in Punjab during 1955-56;

(b) the amount spent on these projects in the State during the same period; and

(c) the main features of actual activities and the welfare work carried out in these projects?

The Deputy Minister of Education (Dr. M. M. Das): (a) Rohtak, Ludhiana, Ambala, Kulu, Gurdaspur and Hoshiarpur districts.

(b) Figures of actual expenditure are not yet available.

(c) Provision of Social Education and Craft training for women, Maternity and Child Welfare services, Balwadis and the organisation of melas and festivals.

Red Fort

320. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent on the maintenance of the Red Fort during the three years ending 1955-56; and

(b) the amount to be spent during 1956-57?

The Deputy Minister of Education (Dr. M. M. Das): (a)

Year	Amount spent. Rs.
1953-54	12,753/6/-
1954-55	10,288/9/-
1955-56	11,577/11/6

(b) Rs. 16,600 of which Rs. 5,300 is estimated to be of general maintenance, and the balance on carrying out certain special repairs.

Security Arrangements

321. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether it is a fact that rules regarding the security arrangements for the President and the other VIPs will be revised?

The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): The instructions regarding the security arrangements for the President and the other V.I.P.s. are under constant examination and review.