received from the authorities concerned, and they are being examined. A statement will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

Diploma Issued by National Council for Rural Education

558. Shri Bishanchander Seth: Shri Rameshwar Tantia:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to extend the provisional recognition of diploma in civil and rural engineering awarded by the National Council for Rural Higher Education;
- (b) if so, the period proposed to be extended;
- (c) whether any decision has been reached regarding permanent recognition of the diploma; and
- (d) if not, when it is likely to be taken and the reasons for such delay?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The provisional recognition has already been extended up to July 1963 or till such time as a decision is taken regarding the recognition of the diploma on a permanent basis, whichever is earlier.

(c) and (d). Visiting Committees appointed by the Board of Assessment for Technical and Professional Qualifications have so far visited three Rural Institutes. As soon as all six Rural Institutes with the Engineering Course have been visited, reports will be placed before the Board, whose recommendations will be considered by the Government.

Promotion in Income Tax Department

559. Shri Nath Pai: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of persons directly recruited through the I.A.S. etc. examinations each year to the Income-Tax service Class I as well as the number of persons promoted from Class II to Class I service in Income-Tax Department from 1944 to 1962:
- (b) whether it is a fact that each of the persons promoted upto 1957 from Class II to Class I in Income-Tax Service has been given weightage of three years service vis-a-vis persons directly recruited from the competitive examinations; and
- (c) whether it is also a fact that several representations from the direct recruits against the arbitrary weightage given to promotees and also violation of the quota rules prescribed by Government have been pending for years and that no final decision has yet been reached?

The Minister of Finance Shri Morarji Desai): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House [See Appendix I, annexure No. 67].

- (b) The persons promoted to Income-tax Officer, Class I up to 1956 (not 1957) have been given weightage in seniority vis-a-vis direct recruits, in accordance with the relevant Seniority Rules.
- (c) Certain direct recruits submitted representations against weightage in seniority granted to departmental promotees, and regarding promotions to Class I. Some of them have now filed writ petitions in the Punjab High Court, raising, amongst other things, the same points.

Harijans in Government Employment

- 560. Shri Vishram Prasad: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of Harijans (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) in the Central Government employment in Class I, Class II, Class III and

Class IV services in different Ministries and Departments at present; and

(b) their number, Statewise?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and a statement will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

Budget Grants of Ministries

- 562. Shri Jashvant Mehta: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of Ministries and their names who have not been able to utilise sanctioned grant in the last year's budget; and
- (b) the number of Ministries who had surrendered their sanctioned grants for the last year?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai) (a) Information about the utilisation of sanctioned grants will be known only after the accounts for the year are closed and the Appropriation Accounts to be compiled by the Comptroller and Auditor General are presented to the Parliament.

(b) 18 Ministries and 8 Departments including certain Secretariats surrendered a part of their sanctioned grants for the year.

Sangeet Natak Akademi

- 563. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 125 on the 23rd April, 1962 and state:
- (a) whether there have been any new developments in regard to the alleged embezzlement case against the Secretary of Sangeet Natak Akademy; and
- (b) the steps taken to realise the amount from the persons concerned?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun

Kabir): (a) The case is still under trial in a Delhi Court.

(b) The position has already been explained in part (b) of the reply to Starred Question No. 125 answered on 23-4-1962.

Hungarian Government Scholarships

- 564. Shri P. Kunhan: Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have made any selection of candidates for the five scholarships offered by the Hungarian Government for specialised training in Aluminium, Thermal and Water Power, Crane and Mine Engineering, Precision Instrument Engineering and Chemical Engineering;
- (b) if so, the details of the selection; and
- (c) the basis on which the selection has been made?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) Not yet.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Training for the Blind

- 565. Shri P. Kunhan: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:
- (a) how many institutes are functioning in India at present for imparting training to the blind;
- (b) what is the number of students who have passed out of these institutes each year (separately) during the last five years;
- (c) whether Government have formulated any scheme for providing employment for these trainees; and
- (d) how many have been provided employment each year separately during the last five years and what is the number of blind trainees still awaiting employment?