

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : The number of writ petitions filed in the Calcutta High Court against the Andaman and Nicobar Administration so far since 1963 is as follows :

Year	Number
1963	1
1964	2
1965	2
1966	6
1967	8 (upto 13th Dec. 1967).

LANDING CHARGES ON PASSENGERS TRAVELLING IN ANDAMAN VESSELS

5159. SHRI K. R. GANESH : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING be pleased to state :

(a) whether any landing charges are levied on passengers travelling in the Andaman vessels for landing in the Nicobar group ports;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) whether it is not the responsibility of the shipping department to land passengers ashore?

if MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING (DR. V. K. R. V. RAO) : (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

INTERNATIONAL HOCKEY FESTIVAL AT LAHORE

5160. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that India has agreed to participate in the forthcoming International Hockey Festival at Lahore in Pakistan;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Pakistan has declined India's invitation to participate in the Hockey Festival to be held in India; and

(c) if so, the reasons for India's acceptance of Pakistan's invitation, when Pakistan declined India's invitation on a reciprocal visit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD) : (a) to (c).

The Indian Hockey Federation have agreed to participate in the International Hockey Festival to be held in Pakistan during January 1968 subject to Pakistan agreeing to reciprocate by a visit to India and playing the same number of matches in India as India is expected to play in Pakistan. The Indian Hockey Federation, however, do not propose to hold any International Hockey Festival in India like the one being held in Pakistan.

INDIAN FOREST SERVICE

5161. SHRI A. S. KASTURE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of State Forest Officers selected in the Indian Forest Service constituted with effect from 1st October, 1966;

(b) the number of State Forest Officers belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes selected in Indian Forest Service;

(c) whether these communities are adequately represented; and

(d) if not, what steps Government propose to take to increase the number of their members in the Indian Forest Service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) to (c). 703 State Forest Service Officers were adjudged suitable for appointment to the Indian Forest Service at its initial constitution with effect from 1-10-1966, including 9 Scheduled Castes and 8 Scheduled Tribes officers.

(d) For recruitment to the service through the competitive examination, the rules/regulations provide reservation for the Scheduled Castes/Tribes candidates. Moreover certain cases are being reviewed where the adverse remarks in the character rolls had either not been conveyed or the representations received against such remarks had remained pending.

LEAVE TRAVEL CONCESSION TO WORKERS IN ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS

5162. SHRI K. R. GANESH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of workers in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands entitled to Leave Travel Concession;