

(b) There is no proposal to set up a TV Centre at Nagpur, due to constraint on resources.

(c) The objective would be to provide widest possible coverage of the country subject to technical feasibility and availability of required financial resources.

'U' Certificates to Films

2682. SHRI ANANT DAVE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether some cases of undue favour to some producers and directors of films shown by the former Information and Broadcasting Minister, Shri Vidya Charan Shukla have come to the notice of Government in respect of allowing 'U' certificates to their films inspite of the refusal by the Film Censor Boards:

(b) if so, the particulars thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) No, Sir. The records do not indicate this.

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

Recruitment of Scheduled Castes and backward Classes to Army

2683. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether persons belonging to backward classes and Scheduled Castes are not recruited to Army in all ranks and units and only the persons of Martial race are considered fit and recruited;

(b) whether the proposition is proving detrimental to the integrity of the country by making distinction on the caste consideration between citizens; and

(c) whether Government propose to issue instructions that all able bodied citizens without any caste consideration would be recruited and such persons desirous of serving the army may not be called to tell his caste?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) No Sir. Government do not recognise any distinction between the so-called 'martial' and 'non-martial' classes. Recruitment to the Army is open to all classes, including the backward classes and scheduled castes, provided they satisfy the physical, educational and medical standards. In the case of certain regiments, however, recruitment to which due to historical reasons are organised on class basis, only recruits belonging to classes constituting those regiments are allotted. Recruits belonging to other classes are excluded from such regiments. They may, however, be allotted to other regiments provided vacancies exist.

(b) and (c). The present system exists because of historical reasons. It has been considered advisable to retain the present system even though it may be benefiting certain classes and make adjustments, if any, only gradually.

It is necessary to require declaration of castes or communities from intending recruits so that

(i) they are allotted correctly to regiments in accordance with the class composition and

(ii) documentation in service records is properly done and statistics maintained correctly.

In view of the position explained above, it is not proposed to issue any instructions in the matter.