

by promotion etc. Proposal for filling up of other types of vacancies are, however, considered on the merits of each case, taking into account the operational necessity. The circumstances in which these instructions were issued have not changed since then to warrant any relaxation thereof. This position has also been explained by the Official Side in the meeting of National Council of J.C.M.

[*Translation*]

Smuggling of Goods on Rajasthan Border

3704. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :—

(a) whether Pak nationals have been apprehended several times while smuggling goods on Rajasthan border with Pakistan ;

(b) if so, the total number of the persons arrested during the past two years ; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government in near future to check smuggling activities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

Embargo on new Appointments in Central Government Offices.

3705. DR. SUDHIR ROY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the embargo on new appointments in the Central Government Offices still continues ;

(b) if so, whether it will not worsen the employment situation in the country ;

(c) whether it will not affect a large number of educated youngmen who are still unemployed in this international year of the youth ; and

(d) whether Government are considering in terms of lifting this embargo ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Instructions issued in January 1984 advising Ministries/Departments of the Govt. of India not to fill up existing vacancies except where recruitment action had been taken, were part of a package of anti-inflationary measures. Apart from exemptions having been allowed in a few selective cases like appointment of dependants of deceased employees on compassionate grounds and handicapped persons, redeployment of personnel surplus to one organisation in another, regularisation of casual labourers against Group 'D' vacancies, filling up of vacancies purely by promotion etc., proposals for filling up of other types of vacancies are considered on individual merits, having regard to the operational necessity. It is, however, expected that with the overall expansion and growth in economy, employment opportunities should increase in the non-Government sector also.

(d) The circumstances in which these economy instructions were issued have not changed since then to necessitate any relaxation thereof.

Sale of Court fee stamps, judicial and non-judicial stamp papers.

3706. SHRI HAFIZ MOHD SIDDIQ : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether public is being inconvenienced in the matter of availability of court fee stamps, judicial and non-judicial stamp papers etc. from the stamp vendors ;

(b) whether some of the stamp vendors like the one in Parliament Street, old courts, New Delhi sell ten paise paper at premium and there is no system followed by them for sale of court fee tickets and stamp papers ; and