

Issue Of Certificate To OBCs

7339. SHRITEJ NARAYAN SINGH : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state the authorities nominated or appointed in each State to issue other Backward Class Certificates for all purposes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE : (SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU). The following authorities are prescribed to issue Caste Certificates for Other Backward Classes:-

(a) District Magistrate/Additional District Magistrate/ Collector/ Deputy Commissioner/ Additional Deputy Commissioner/ Deputy Collector/ 1st Class Stipendary Magistrate/ Sub-Divisional Magistrate/ Taluka Magistrate/ Executive Magistrate/ Extra Assistant Commissioner (not below the rank of 1st Class Stipendary Magistrate).

(b) Chief Presidency Magistrate/ Additional Chief Presidency Magistrate/ Presidency Magistrate.

(c) Revenue Officer not below the rank of Tehsildar: and

(d) Sub-Divisional Officer of the area where the candidate and/or his family normally resides.

[Translation]

Eye Treatment

7340. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA) :
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of blind at present

in the country;

(b) whether the number of blind are increasing constantly due to non-availability of proper facilities for treatment of eye diseases in the country;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the percentage of the blind in India as compared to other countries of the world;

(e) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to provide proper eye treatment: and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) :

(a). It is estimated that there are more than 12 million blind persons in the country.

(b) and (c). The number of blind persons due to cataract is increasing.

(d) 20% of the total blind population of the world is Indian according to international standard of blindness.

(e) and (f). Yes, Sir. National Programme for Control of Blindness is in operation since 1975-76. This involves strengthening of Ophthalmic infrastructure in Medical Colleges, District Hospitals and Primary Health Centres and establishment of District Blindness Control Societies and Mobile Units to provide comprehensive eye care services.

[English]

Militant Attack in Doda, J & K

7341. SHRI B. DEVARAJAN : Will