

special consideration is given to recruitment from minority communities.

11. In many areas recruitment is done through competitive examinations. Often minority groups have been handicapped in taking advantage of the educational system to compete on equal terms in such examinations. To help them to overcome these handicaps, steps should be taken to encourage the starting of coaching classes in minority educational institutions to train persons to compete successfully in these examinations.

12. The acquisition of technical skills by those minorities who are today lagging behind would also help in the national development. Arrangements should be made to set up IIIs and Polytechnics by Government or private agencies in predominantly minority areas to encourage admission in such institutions of adequate number of persons belonging to these communities.

III. Other Measures :

13. In various development programmes, including the 20-Points Programme, care should be taken to see that minorities secure in a fair and adequate measure the benefits flowing therefrom. In the various committees which are set up to oversee the implementation of such programmes, members of those communities should be actively involved.

14. Apart from the general issues to which I have referred there are various local problems which develop into needless irritants to minorities. For instance encroachment of Wakf properties and on graveyards have led to protests and grievances in some places. Suitable steps should be taken to deal with such problems on an expeditious and satisfactory basis.

15. Problems relating to minorities need to be attended to on a continuing basis so that apprehensions are allayed and genuine grievances redressed. To facilitate this, a special cell will be created in the Ministry of Home Affairs to deal with matters relating to minorities.

Participation by VIPs in a Birthday Party at Mehrauli Farm

611. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA :
SHRI B. V. DESAI :
SHRI YASHWANTRAO
GADAKH PATIL :
SHRI AKHTAR HASAN :
SHRI PURNACHANDRA
MALICK :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether is a fact that a birthday party at Mehrauli farm was celebrated recently by an alleged bad character of the capital where some of the V.I.Ps. were present including officers of the Central Government; and

(b) if so, the details of the persons who attended the birthday party and the action Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STATES (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) A birthday party was held on 6th September, 1985 at the Farm house of Shri B. R. Chopra at Mehrauli. The guests at the birthday party included some senior officers of the Central Government and the Delhi Administration as well as some prominent persons.

(b) A preliminary enquiry has been carried out and the matter is under examination.

Acquisition of New Aircraft Carrier

612. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government for acquiring new aircraft carrier of the Kieu class; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard along-with its utility ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH) : (a) and (b). As INS Vikrant is due to be decommissioned in the 1990s, the question of her replacement is being examined and various alternatives are