

**Filling up posts of news editors-cum-translators in A.L.R. Station, Simla**

404. SHRI DURGA CHAND: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the posts of News Editors-cum-Translators are lying vacant at AIR Station, Simla;

(b) the number of such posts lying vacant and since when;

(c) the reasons for which the posts are lying vacant;

(d) whether the sub-Editors (Script) working in AIR Station Simla are not being considered for these posts; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) (a) and (b) : There are no posts in All India Radio designated as News-Editor-cum-Translator. The reference probably is to the post of News Reader-cum-Translator.

A post of Sub-Editor in Grade IV of the Central Information Service, which was lying vacant has been converted into the staff artist post of News Reader-cum-Translator. At present, only one post of News Reader-cum-Translator is lying vacant at All India Radio, Simla since 17th October, 1977.

(c) The decision to convert the civil post of Sub-Editor into Staff Artists post of News Reader-cum-Translator has been taken only recently.

(d) Sub-Editor (Scripts) are eligible for being considered for appointment to the post of News Reader-cum-Translator through limited selection if they satisfy the qualifications laid down in the Recruitment Rules. The Sub-Editor (Scripts) at AIR, Simla is eligible to compete for this post alongwith other departmental candidates as per rules.

(e) Does not arise.

**Rural Road Commission**

405. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal to set up a Rural Road Commission in order to develop roads, is under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) expected period by which it is proposed to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM) : (a) to (c) . Rural Roads are a State responsibility and as such the question of creation of Rural Roads Commission falls within the sphere of State activities. However, with a view to providing for proper coordination financing and care of other aspects pertaining to Rural Roads, the Indian Roads Congress, which is a body registered under the Societies Act, recommended in 1972 the setting up of a Rural Road Commission at the Centre and similar Commissions in the States. This matter was placed before the Transport Development Council at its meeting in February 1973 but it did not find favour with the State representatives at the Council and the matter was accordingly treated as dropped.

Very recently, however, the Indian Roads Congress have come up with a modified recommendation indicating that if the scheme is not acceptable to the States, they may at least ensure that the money spent on Rural Roads by various agencies is handled through one single technically competent executing agency. As regards a Rural roads Commission at the Centre, they have recommended that since the main issue is that of funds, special funds over and above the present grants should be provided and distributed among the States through the suggested Central Rural Roads Commission which could also guide States in the pursuit of the Rural Roads Programme. Since, however, this recommendation has been received only very recently, it is too early to express any view in the matter, especially as Rural Roads are a State subject.

**Cochin Shipyard**

406. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 463 on the 15th June, 1977 and state :

(a) whether the Board of Directors have taken a decision regarding the demands of the workers of the Cochin Shipyard ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM) : (a) and (b). The Board of Directors had authorised Chairman & Managing Director to initiate discussions with the Union on the demands of the workers. Negotiations with the Union are now in progress.

**Recruitment in the Store Keeping Cadre in IAF**

407. SHRI S.D. SOMASUNDARAM : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been no recruitment in the store keeping cadre in I.A.F. when there are opportunities for recruitments in the equipment branch for servicemen every year/six months;

(b) whether Government is considering to raise the maximum scale of store keepers ; and

(c) whether the civilian store keepers in the I.A.F. will be allowed to apply for jobs outside when there is stagnation and insufficient promotional opportunities ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir. There is a ban on filling up of the vacancies of civilian personnel (except Typists and Stenographers) arising in the normal course, which can be relaxed in deserving cases. Recruitment to the cadre of airmen is made periodically to fill the established vacancies of airmen in the various trades including the trade of Equipment Assistant in the various units of the Air Force.

(b) The matter has, *inter-alia*, been referred to a Committee and will be processed on receipt of the Committee's recommendations.

(c) There is at present no ban on forwarding of applications of civilian store-keepers for jobs outside the Air Force.

**Assistance to States to have separate Police Force to check offences of untouchability**

408. SHRI PARMANAND GOBINDJIWALA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Government have, in order to prevent the offences with regard to untouchability, given help to States to organise a separate police force;

(b) whether such Police Forces have been organised in all States;

(c) if so, whether the desired results have been achieved; and

(d) if not, what further steps are being taken to prevent such offences ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI DHANIK LAL MANDAL) : (a) to (d). The State Governments of Karnataka and Gujarat, who sought financial assistance, were sanctioned Rs. 2,02,100/- and Rs. 88,825/- respectively for augmenting the machinery for the enforcement of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955.

The setting up of a separate police force to deal only with offences pertaining to untouchability is not contemplated.

The State Governments have been requested to implement the provisions of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 vigorously on a priority basis. The State Governments have also been advised to consider the setting up of a cell or any suitable machinery to look into the grievances of Harijans. Special police cells have been set up by the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh at different levels according to the local conditions, to deal with cases of violence against or harassment of Scheduled Castes and for the enforcement of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955.

**Commendation Certificates to the Army Personnel**

409. SHRI U.S. PATIL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of army personnel given commendation certificates for their outstanding heroic service during natural calamities like floods, in Rajasthan, Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, Bihar and Assam during the last three years (1975-77) years wise and unit wise ; and

(b) whether these army personnel are given some financial or other advance increment or advance promotion benefits in view of their outstanding heroic services ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) : (a) A statement is attached.

(b) Recipients of Commendation Cards are not entitled to any monetary benefit. However, this award adds a favourable