

who had qualified in a written test in June;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN)** (a) No

(b) Does not arise.

(c) 50 per cent of the vacancies arising upto 31-3-78 are to be filled by Act Apprentices trained in clerical trades. The number of such apprentices on the Northern Railway where a written test was held in June 1977, is more than the number of vacancies available for this purpose

**Promotional avenues for Hindi-cum English Stenographers**

1764 **SHRI DHARM VIR VASISHT:** Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are some ex-cadre posts of Hindi-cum-English stenographers in Vidhi Sahitya Prakashan and official languages wing of the Ministry who have the same scale of pay as of the uni-lingual stenographers in the Central Secretariat;

(b) whether there are no promotional avenues for these stenographers; and

(c) whether the Government have under consideration any proposal for revising their scales of pay or any other relief or bringing them under Central Stenographers Service for purposes of promotion?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI NARSINGH YADAV):** (a) All the posts of stenographers in the Official Languages Wing and Vidhi Sahitya Prakashan are excluded from the Central Secretariate Stenographers' Service. The incumbents of these posts are required

to know English Stenography and type-writing and also stenography and type-writing in Hindi or a regional language. The pay scale of these posts is the same as that of Group 'C' Stenographers of the Central Secretariat Stenographers' Service.

(b) and (c). The Ministry of Home Affairs have issued orders on 15-10-77 that a selection grade in the pay scale of Rs 650-30-740-35-880-E B.-40-960 should be introduced with effect from 1-10-77 for Grade 'C' Stenographers in CSSS in view of the acute stagnation in the grade. The question of extending the benefit of these orders to the stenographers in the Official Languages Wing and the Vidhi Sahitya Prakashan will be considered.

**Implementation of Child Marriages Restraint Act and Dowry Prohibition Act**

1765 **SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA:** Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Child Marriage Restraint Act and the Dowry Prohibition Act have not proved effective enough in the country.

(b) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to amend them and make them effective; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI NARSINGH YADAV):** (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c). Proposals to amend the two Acts with a view to making them more effective are under consideration. So far as the Child Marriage Restraint Act is concerned, a Bill to amend that Act to increase the minimum age of marriage from fifteen to sixteen for females and from eighteen to twenty-one for males, is likely to be introduced in the current session of Parliament.