

civil list and their seniority maintained from the date of joining service without obtaining the concurrence of UPSC over and above those who were appointed through UPSC; and

(d) if so, action taken or proposed to be taken on these representations with a view to amend the seniority list on the basis of date of UPSC approval or date of joining the service whatever applicable, in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) Yes. Some representations had been received.

(b) No.

(c) Yes. The seniority of all the officers appointed to the Central Health Service has been determined in accordance with the principles decided in consultation with the UPSC and Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms.

(d) All representations in this regard are duly considered and where necessary seniority was revised in consultation with the UPSC and the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms.

#### **Exchange of Enclaves with Bangladesh**

3419. SHRI TRIDIB CHAUDHURI:

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the present position with regard to the ratification and implementation of the terms of agreement signed with Bangladesh in the year 1974 for the exchange of the enclaves of Indian territory in the Bangladesh

District of Rangpur and those of Bangladesh territory in the Districts of Coochbehar and Jalpaiguri in Indian Union;

(b) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the fact that the Kachlibari area of Coochbehar District which is being rendered an Indian enclave a new is surrounded on all sides by Bangladesh territory;

(c) whether a corridor through Indian territory in Coochbehar is leased out to Bangladesh in perpetuity according to the terms of the 1974 agreement in order to provide Bangladesh mainland of Rangpur a free access to its enclave of Dehagram which would be retained by Bangladesh; and

(d) if this matter has been raised at any stage with Bangladesh and the reaction of the Bangladesh Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU): (a) Ratification of the Land Boundary Agreement, 1974 requires amendment in the Constitution. A draft Constitutional Amendment Bill is now under consideration of the Government.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) and (d). According to the Land Boundary Agreement of May, 1974, India is to lease out in perpetuity a corridor to Bangladesh near in Bigha to connect Daha Gram with Pan Bouri Mauza of Bangladesh. So far it has not been leased out. The question of free passage of Indian citizens across the territory to be leased was taken up with the Government of Bangladesh in 1975. The negotiations were inconclusive. It is proposed to reopen these negotiations in the near future.