

(i) direct recruitment and (ii) promotions respectively were issued and the reasons of their delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI) :

(a)

CLASS	1975		1976		1977	
	S.C.	S.T.	S.C.	S.T.	S.C.	S.T.
I . . .	44	12	82	14	102	14
II	321	18	315	19	425	18
III . . .	46465	11823	54502	13153	57702	14058
IV . . .	8267	4176	18911	4259	16917	4507

(b) The Orders/instructions regarding reservation are issued from time to time by the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms, being the nodal Ministry. These orders are circulated in the Ministry, its attached Office and Subordinate Offices for compliance without delay.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A list of recommendations by the Experts' Committee is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-2938/78*]

Rural training Centres

1729. **SHRI P. M. SAYEED:**
SHRI UGRASEN:
SHRI D. D. DESAI:
SHRI A. R. BADRINARA-YAN:
SHRI M. V. CHANDRA-SHEKAR MURTHY:

Will the Minister of **PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR** be pleased to state:

(a) whether an expert Committee set up by the Ministry has suggested establishment of rural training centres;

(b) if so, what other recommendations have been made, by that Committee;

(c) how many of them have been accepted; and

(d) how many have been rejected and implemented so far?

(c) and (d). The recommendations of the Experts' Committee have been circulated to State Governments and other concerned Central Ministries for comments. Final decision on the recommendations would be taken on receipt of comments from the concerned organisations.

Opposing Russian plan of nuclear guarantee

1730. **SHRI P. M. SAYEED:**
SHRI M. V. CHANDRA-SHEKHAR MURTHY:
SHRI A. R. BADRINARA-YAN:

Will the Minister of **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India opposed Soviet plan for nuclear guarantee;

(b) if so, the main reasons for opposing it; and

(c) whether Indian Government has proposed any new plan in place of Soviet plan for guarantee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The consistent position of the Government of India, which is well known, is that the only real and effective guarantee of security against the threat of nuclear weapons lies in the total elimination of such weapons.

Opening of new R.P.Os.

1731. PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether one or more new regional passport offices have been opened by Government in 1978;

(b) whether the existing offices have been strengthened in terms of staff facilities, accommodation in 1978;

(c) broad details of (a) & (b) above;

(d) whether Government appoint some persons as daily wage clerks for some time and then unilaterally and arbitrarily remove the said clerks from employment; and

(e) if so, why?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) (i) Four Passport Offices have been opened so far in 1978, at Bangalore (12th June, 78), Kozhikode (17th June, 78), Jaipur (22nd September, 78) and Bhopal (17th October, 78).

Five more offices are proposed to be opened before end of the current financial year at Bhubaneswar, Patna, Gauhati, Srinagar and Jullundur or Ludhiana in the Punjab.

It has also been decided to set up a Passport Office in Himachal Pradesh early in the financial year 1979-80.

(ii) During the year 1978, a total of 237 posts of Assistants, UDC's and LDC's had been created and deployed among the Passport Offices to adequately strengthen them to meet the additional workload.

(iii) Additional accommodation had been hired for the Passport Offices in Delhi (approximately 900 sq. feet.), Ernakulam (approximately 3,000 sq. ft.), Chandigarh (approximately 2,800 sq. ft.) and Lucknow (approximately 800 sq. ft.). The office in Bombay moved into new accommodation of approximately 24,000 sq. ft. Comprehensive renovations and repairs were carried out in the office in Calcutta and additional structural/wooden partition jobs executed in the office in Hyderabad;

(d) and (e). Daily Rated Clerks have been appointed in the Passport Offices from time to time. In February-March, 1978, 375 posts of Daily Rated Clerks had been created and deployed among the Passport Office to tackle the problem of arrears which stood at 4.63 lakhs as of the beginning of this year. The arrears were proposed to be cleared within six month's time and accordingly the posts were short-term posts created only for six months period. As the arrears have brought down, a reduced number of these posts were continued on month to month basis after August, 1978. As of now, 146 arrear clearance posts have been extended upto December, 1978.

As these posts were created for specified period and for a specific purpose, it is not possible to justify continuance of these posts after the objective has been realised.

However, in recognition of the experience in passport work gained by such employees, it is proposed to absorb about 200 of them against new posts created and against existing vacancies in the establishment. Their absorption will be based on their seniority, that is, the period of their