

P. & T. EMPLOYEES

272. **Shri B. N. Kureel:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of employees in the P. & T. Department category-wise in the Lucknow Division; and

(b) the number of Scheduled Caste employees in each of these categories?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). The information is laid on the Table of the House in the form of a statement. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 90.]

Scheduled Tribes in Railway SERVICES

273. { **Shri Natawadkar:**
Shri Y. M. Mukne:
Shri B. K. Patel:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) how many Railway Officers belonging to Scheduled Tribes in the I, II, III and IV grades are serving in the Railway Department;

(b) the number of officers and clerks belonging to the Scheduled Tribes appointed in 1951-52, 1952-53 and 1953-54; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to reserve vacancies for Scheduled Tribes and to fill them?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The Scheduled Tribes enjoy a reservation of 5 per cent. of the vacancies filled by direct recruitment

in all Railway Services, Class I, II, III and IV. There has been great paucity of Scheduled Tribes candidates for the reserved vacancies owing to their general backwardness. Response from Scheduled Tribes candidates to Superior Railway Services continue to be very poor but for Class III and IV vacancies the Railway Service Commission and the local recruiting authorities have instructions to give special attention to the recruitment of Scheduled Tribes up to the quota of vacancies reserved for them.

पाण्डीचेरी के लिये पार्सल

२७४. श्री एस० एम० बास : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पाण्डीचेरी और भारत में अन्य फ्रांसीसी बस्तियों को जान वाले बहुत से पार्सल बहुत दिनों से मद्रास में रुके पड़े हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस के क्या कारण हैं ; और

(ग) ऐसे पार्सलों की संख्या कितनी है और वे कम से कम और अधिक से अधिक कितने दिनों से रुके पड़े हैं ?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes. Only parcels which are delivered through Indian Post Offices in these settlements have been so detained.

(b) The parcels have been held up for completion of customs formalities.

(c) The number at present is estimated to be about 5,000. Some parcels have been lying there for about six months.