

(b) how this figure compares with the figures of the year 1954-55?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Education (Dr. M. M. Das): (a) Rs. 2,45,349-3-0.

(b) As against the amount of Rs. 2,45,349/3/- sanctioned for 1955-56 the amount sanctioned for 1954-55 was Rs. 2,49,575/4/-.

MERCY PETITIONS

940. { **Shri Ibrahim:**
Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mercy petitions against death sentences received from different States from convicts or from others on their behalf from 16th December, 1955 to 31st March, 1956; and

(b) the number of convicts among them who were pardoned?

The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) 45.

(b) No convict was granted pardon, but Death sentence was commuted to imprisonment for life in the case of 13 prisoners.

GRANTS TO STATE GOVERNMENTS

941. **Shri Ibrahim:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state the total amount of grants paid actually to various State Governments during 1955-56 to cover their revenue deficits?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): The payment are as under:

Ajmer	Rs.	1,77	Lakhs (roundly)
Bhopal	"	2,03	"
Delhi	"	30	"
Himachal Pradesh	"	1,37	"
Vindhya Pradesh	"	1,90	"
TOTAL	Rs.	7,37	"

I. A. S. EXAMINATION

942. **Shri Veeraswamy:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an examination for I. A. S. was held recently;

(b) if so, the number of candidates who appeared and the number of scheduled caste candidates among them; and

(c) the number selected out of them and how many of them belong to the scheduled castes?

The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Yes, in September-October 1955.

(b) Total number of candidates who appeared
2777 Number of Scheduled Caste candidates who appeared.....53.

(c) Sixty-eight candidates have qualified for appointment to the I. A. S. on the results of this Examination. Out of these one is a Scheduled Caste and one a Scheduled Tribe candidate.

DISCHARGE OF HAVILDAR CLERKS

943. **Shri Ram Krishan:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 4000 Havildar clerks of the Indian Army were discharged from service under reversion scheme during 1953:

(b) if so, whether they were granted pensions under the New Pension Code; and

(c) if not, why not?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) No; only about 2900 clerks in all were discharged from service under the scheme.

(b) No.

(c) The terms on which those clerks were released were published in November 1952, i.e., before the New Pension Code was introduced; and