

to poor and harijan families who cannot afford private tuition with a view to improve divisions will be denied admission in regular colleges;

(c) whether such candidates are proposed to be admitted as private candidates in the examinations under correspondence courses of University;

(d) justification of declaring as passed candidates having less than 40 percent marks when they are denied opportunity of higher education; and

(e) whether Government will ask the University authorities to admit all those declared passed in Senior Secondary Certificate examination without assigning any condition of percentage of marks etc.?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):

(a) and (b). The minimum requirement of 40 per cent marks for seeking admission is not a new decision but a decision of the Academic Council in vogue for the past one decade. However, in the case of students belonging to Scheduled Castes/Tribes, there is a relaxation to the extent of 5 per cent in the minimum marks.

(c) and (d). In the case of candidates seeking admission to the School of Correspondence Courses, the minimum eligibility requirement is 40 per cent with relaxation of 5 per cent marks in the case of students belonging to SC/ST. Those with lesser percentage are eligible to appear as external candidates. As such, there is no denial of opportunity of higher education to those who have secured less than 40 per cent marks in the Senior Secondary Certificate examination. Moreover, minimum pass percentage prescribed for higher secondary examination is not related to admission to higher education institutions.

(e) No, Sir. It is for the University to determine its admission policy.

दिल्ली में बेघरों को घर

4029. श्री राम विलास पासवान : क्या निर्माण और आवास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने दिल्ली में बेघर लोगों को निशुल्क मकान प्रदान करने की कोई योजना बनाई है ;

(ख) गन्दी बस्तियों (झुग्गी झोंपड़ी) के विकास के लिए सरकार क्या कदम उठा रही है ; और

(ग) क्या सरकार को मालूम है कि गन्दी बस्तियों (झुग्गी झोंपड़ी) में निवासियों की हालत बहुत खराब है ?

निर्माण और आवास मंत्री (श्री प्रकाश चन्द सेठी) : (क) जी, नहीं ।

(ख) तथा (ग) : झुग्गी झोंपड़ी पुनर्वास योजना के अन्तर्गत गन्दी बस्ती की समस्याओं का सरकार का पता है । झगड़ियों में रहने वाले गन्दी बस्ती निवासियों को मूल सुविधाओं से युक्त विकसित प्लॉट दिए जाते हैं ।

Posts Reserved for SC/ST Lying Vacant in the Ministry

4030. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALICK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts reserved for the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in his Ministry proper which remained vacant on the 1st June, 1980; and

(b) the reasons for not filling up of these posts?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO): (a) Forty six vacancies. Seventeen reserved for Scheduled Castes and twenty nine reserved for Scheduled Tribes, were lying vacant in the Ministry of Agriculture (proper) in the 1st June, 1980.

(b) Out of forty six vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, thirty three remained unfilled as candidates of the category for which they were reserved were not available. In regard to three vacancies, recommendations of the Union Public Service Commission/Staff Selection Commission have been received and action to appoint candidate of appropriate category is in progress. In another three cases, UPSC/SSC have recommended the general candidates due to non-availability of SC/ST candidates. Recommendations of the UPSC/SSC are awaited in five cases. The candidate selected by UPSC to fill up one vacancy was not found medically fit. The claim of a Scheduled Tribe candidate recommended by the UPSC for another vacancy was found to be wrong, and the Commission has been requested to recommend another candidate.

Application for Telephone Connections in Buvanshwar Area

4031. SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for New Telephone connections on waiting list in Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Puri, in the State of Orissa; and

(b) when it is proposed to liquidate the waiting list?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAON): (a) and (b). The number of applications for new connections on the waiting list at the three exchanges as on 1-7-80 and the likely period by which the connections may be provided are indicated below:

	Waiting list as on 1-7-80	Likely date of clearance
Bhubaneswar	663	June, 1981.
Cuttack	436	December, 1981.
Puri	10	October, 1980.

Revision of Food Policy

4032. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to review the present food policy; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO): (a) and (b). The food policy is kept under constant review. The price and procurement policy for kharif cereals for 1980-81 is under consideration of the Government at present.

Shortage of Staff in P&T Deptt. in Bhubanshwar Area

4033. SHRI K. A. RAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Post and Telegraph department is facing the problem of staff shortage which varies from 5 to 11 percent;

(b) if so, the details and reasons therefor; and

(c) what measures are being taken for the immediate recruitment of sufficient staff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of shortage in the various cadres is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House. This shortage is partly due to the rapid and all round expansion of the various activities of the department and also partly due to certain time-lag between the sanction of posts and filling up the posts caused by certain procedural formalities of recruitment.

(c) The recruitment procedures have been recently streamlined to cut down delays. Recruitment to Clerical & Allied Cadres has been further decentralised to the Divisional Level to