

Promotion of SC/ST Auditors

2611. **SHRI B. D. SINGH:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that often promotions of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe Auditors are not made against the vacancies reserved for them even though qualified Auditors become eligible for promotions, the vacancies are either left vacant or carried forward which mars the career of the deserving persons belonging to these communities;

(b) whether Government have made any independent assessment to find out if the instructions laid down by Government in this respect are strictly adhered to by the various Ministries/Departments of Government and the persons belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes are promoted as soon as they become eligible against the vacancies reserved for them; and

(c) if so, the result of the assessment made and the step contemplated to ensure that promotional opportunities are not denied to the persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA): (a) It is not correct that often promotions of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe Auditors are not made against the vacancies reserved for the purpose. However, on account of an Interim Stay Order granted by the Ranchi Bench of the Patna High Court such promotions could not be made in the Office of the Accountant General, Bihar, Ranchi. This stay order has since been vacated by the Supreme Court and in future, promotions will be made as per orders of Government.

(b) and (c). Government have asked the various Ministries and Departments to follow the reservation orders strictly and bring to the notice of appropriate authorities any cases of deliberate infraction of reservation orders but have not made any general in-

dependent assessment so far. However, any particular instance brought to the notice of the Government is looked into.

Completion of Public Sector Projects

2612. **SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI:**

SHRI DAULAT RAM SARAN:
SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) whether completion of certain Public Sector Projects has been considerably delayed resulting in rise in the cost of their completion;

(b) if so, the Public Sector Projects which have been delayed, stating the period of delay and the reasons therefor;

(c) the extent of escalation in the cost of these projects as against the original estimated cost; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to complete these projects without any further delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA): (a) to (c). Delay in completion of the projects in the Public Sector occur due to various reasons such as time taken in awarding contracts, delay in supply of equipment, time lag in development of infrastructural facilities, shortages of power and scarce materials, selection of consultants as well as due to inaccurate estimates of time and cost aspects of project implementation.

The information in regard to major projects which have been delayed indicating the time and cost over-runs is given in the annexure.

(d) Various steps have been taken to improve project monitoring through modern management techniques and improved project formulation. Government are also devoting special attention to speedier development of infra-structure like power, transport etc. so that these do not hinder project implementation.