

Government has been taking all possible steps to arrange equitable distribution of these raw materials. The problems pointed out in the memorandum have also been taken up with the authorities concerned.

(d) and (e). Does not arise.

**SC/ST Translators and Hindi Officers working in Ministry of Home Affairs**

2442. SHRI BHEEKHABHAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) total number of Translators and Hindi Officers working in the Ministry of Home Affairs proper and its other departments separately;

(b) the number of SC and ST Translators and Hindi Officers amongst them and whether the quota reserved for SC and ST is complete in both the categories of posts;

(c) if not, the reasons for not filling the reserve quota when the qualified and suitable Scheduled Caste Translators fit for promotion as Hindi Officers are available there; and

(d) the steps taken or being taken to fill up the backlog ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS: (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

**Retirement age of Class IV Government Employees**

2444. SHRI NITYANANDA MISRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the retirement age of Class IV Government employees in Central Government is 60 years;

(b) whether option is asked from the Class IV employees before they are promoted to Class III posts other than clerical ones for which the age of retirement is 58 years;

(c) whether a large number of Central Government employees have since been refused permission to stay as the Class IV employees and if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) if answer to part (b) above be in negative, what are the steps Government propose to take in order that such Government employees retire at the age of 60 years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATA SUBBAIAH): (a) Yes, Sir; except in the case of Group 'D' employees of the Secretariat Security Force who initially enter service on or after 15-9-69 for whom the retirement age is 58 years.

(b) No, Sir. It is open to an employee to refuse promotion to higher grades, which will debar him from asking for promotion for a specified period.

(c) and (d). The Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms has no information regarding the alleged refusal of permission to Group 'D' employees, to continue as Group 'D' employees. As stated above, an employee is free to refuse promotion to higher grades if he wants to continue as a Group 'D' employee.

**Fixation of Ratable Value of Houses in Ashok Nagar, New Delhi**

3435. SHRI KESHAORAO PARDHI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred