Alleged Misappropriation of Funds by Officer in Border roads

7855. SHRI HARINATHA MISRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item under the caption 'Home Minister saves indicated officer' as published in Times of India dated 13 March, 1982;

(b) if so, whether the CBI, some months back, investigated a case of misappropriation of funds by a senior Engineer of the Border Roads Wing under the Ministry of Shipping and Transport and subsequently sought the opinion of the Central Vigilance Commission who suggested prosecution of the officer concerned;

(c) whether a couple of months back, orders were issued for the withdrawal of the prosecution; and

(d) if the answers to (b) and (c) in the affirmative the reasons and basis for withdrawal of the prosecution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBA-IAH): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) Considering the C.B.I. report and the advice of the Central Vigilance Commission, it was initially decided to accord sanction for the prosecution of the officer. However, subsequently, the Ministry of Shipping and Transport, i.e. the adminstrative Ministry, expressed the view that initiation of departmental proceedings would meet the ends of justice. On reconsideration, the suggestion of the Ministry of Shipping and Transport was agreed to and accordingly it was decided that the sanction for the prosecution of the officer' earlier issued, should not be operated upon.

(d) As no prosecution was launched in a court of law, the question of withdrawal of prosecution in this case does not arise. Filling up Vacancy of Members of UPSC

7856. SHRI D. S. A. SIVAPRAKA-SHAM: Will the Minister of HOME AF-FAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total strength of members fixed for Union Public Service Commission;

(b) whether the U.P.S.C. works with full strength or there is any vacancy; and

(c) if there is any vacancy, how long it had been vacant and the steps taken by Government to fill the vacancy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBA-IAH):(a) Sanctioned strength of the Union Public Service Commission is one Chairman and eight Members.

(b) and (c). There is one vacancy of a Member since 17-10-1981 and necessary steps are being taken to fill it.

Persons trained by tribal research and training institutes

7857. SHRI N. E. HORO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of personnel trained by the Tribal Research and Training Institutes of Ranchi, Calcutta, Bhubaneshwar and Bhopal during 1971-1981 who are engaged in Tribal administration; and

(b) the number of such trained personnel posted in tribal areas at present in Bihar, West Bengal, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.