

(b) Promotions to the grades of Section Officers/Stenographers Grade 'B' are made in equal proportion through the limited departmental competitive examination and on the basis of seniority. Since the condition of age limit was not there for promotion on the basis of seniority, it was considered appropriate to remove this condition in respect of examination category.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) For determining the merit of a candidate for a senior Stenographic post, this performance in an examination, including his technical skill (i.e. stenography) has to be tested as a whole.

Visit of Area Welfare Officers to General Government Employees Consumer Cooperative Society Stores

1595. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms have asked its Area Welfare Officers to pay periodic and surprise visits to the retail stores run by the Central Government Employees Consumer Cooperative Society Ltd. in various residential colonies so that any complaints and irregularities could be brought to the notice of the Department and to make suggestions for improvement in the working of the Society as well as provision of better amenities to the Central Government employees ;

(b) if so, sanctity of the order in view of the existence of a democratic set up of elected body of shareholders and the steps taken to withdraw the direction of its officers and

(c) the reasons for non-availability of essential items with its retail outlets as also rationed commodities together with steps taken to ensure their easy and free availability at all times ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE
IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME
AFFAIRS (SHRI NIHAR
RAJAN) :

(a) Yes, Sir,

(b) The Society was set up as a welfare measure with a view to providing consumer articles of daily use to the large body of Government servants living in the various residential colonies in Delhi/New Delhi. The Government is, therefore, interested to see that Society fulfils the objectives for which it was set up. The purpose behind the order is not to hamper the day to day activities of the Society, but only to have an independent source of information about the proper functioning of the retail stores. There is, therefore, no question of withdrawing the order.

(c) The society runs 37 retail stores spread all over Delhi/New Delhi and tries to ensure that all essential items of daily use (including rationed commodities) are available at all times in all these stores. However, when there is heavy demand for particular items, shortages do occur sometimes but replenishment of stock is done at the earliest.

कागज के मूल्यों में वृद्धि

1956. श्री निहाल सिंह : क्या उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि कागज मिल मालिकों ने गत दो वर्षों के दौरान कागज के मूल्यों को 2750 रुपए प्रति मी० से बढ़ा कर 4200 रु० प्रति मी० टन कर दे दिया है ;