labourers/muster roll workers are being employed by his Ministry or Departments/Subordinate Offices under his Ministry:

- (b) if so, the number of such employees employed in his Ministry as well as in each Department and Subordinate Office under his Ministry;
- (c) whether their services are not being regularised even after the lapse of considerable period; if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) what action Government propose to take in respect of regularisation of their services instead of keeping them as casual labourers or only muster roll employees for years together?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHUR-SHEED ALAM KHAN): (a) to (d) The requisite information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the House.

Recruitment to Class III Posts in Nationalised Banks

8390. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether recruitment to Class III posts in the nationalised banks is made in such a manner that candidates belonging to backward and hilly States have to compete with their counterparts from the plains;
- (b) if so, whether it is a fact that the hilly States regions generally get virtually little share in recruitment under the circumstances;
- (c) if so, whether Government propose to ensure that such safegaurds are provided as encourage the youngmen from these States to get due share in recruitment to posts in branches located in such States; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) to (d) Prosumably, the Hon'ble Member is referring to recruitment to the clerical cadre of the nationalised banks. All direct recruitment to the clerical cadre of the nationalised banks are made through Banking Service Recruitment Boards (BSRBs). Each BSRB has been assigned a geographical area comprising one or more States for the purpose recruitment. Normally. of clerical each State/Union Territery constitutes a separate recruitment zone for recruitment to the clerical cadre of all nationalised banks within the State or Union Territory. The condidates from one recruitment zone compete among themselves and not with candidates from outside the zone. The question of the candidates from backward States competing against candidates from more advanced States does not therefore arise.

Recommendations of Members of Parliament for Opening Branches of Nationalised Banks

8391. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether recommedations of the Members of Parliament are given any weightage at the time of the finalisation of the list of places for which the Reserve Bank of India gives the licences for opening of branches of nationalised banks recommended by State Governments:
- (b) if so, the exact weightage given in the regard; and
 - (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARI): (a) to (c) In terms of their branch licensing policy, the centres for location of branches at rural/semi-urban centres