

(c) if not, whether Government would consider the question of including the Assistants working in such offices also for the grant of this concession?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):

(a) and (c). No relaxation in the minimum age limit is granted to Assistants of the Central Secretariat Service for appearing at the Competitive Examinations for direct recruitment to the grade of Section Officers viz. the I.A.S. etc. Combined Competitive Examination. However, as in the case of departmental candidates of the other Central Services, recruitment to which is made through the same examination, relaxation upto 3 years in the upper age limit is admissible to such Assistants whether employed in the Secretariat or in the non-Secretariat Offices, for the purpose of competing for recruitment to the grade of Section Officers at this examination. This concession is not allowed to Assistants who do not belong to the Central Secretariat Service, whether they may be employed in a Secretariat or in a non-Secretariat Office, as they cannot be considered to be "departmental" candidates for the Section Officers' grade of this Service.

Mystery of Falling Stones in Rajendra Nagar, New Delhi

3032. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that stones and bottles have been falling on a row of 32 houses of a block in Rajinder Nagar, New Delhi for the past ten days;

(b) the number of persons injured or otherwise affected by the said phenomenon;

(c) if so, whether any investigation has been made; and

(d) if so, the result thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a)

and (b). On the 23rd March 1961, it was reported to the police that some stones were being thrown on a house in Old Rajinder Nagar. A police party immediately reached the spot and commenced enquiries. In the course of the investigation it came to notice that during the past few days some missiles consisting of small pieces of stones, ink bottles, bits of plaster, etc. were being thrown on the roofs of a block of houses in the locality. No person had received any injuries in these incidents.

(c) and (d). Yes. A police patrol was posted around the block of buildings and the nuisance came to an end. It is suspected that the mischief was due to some childish prank. No arrests have yet been made.

Seizure of Plastic Goods

3033. Shri Kunhan: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1475 on the 7th December, 1960 and state the action taken against the exporters of plastic goods M/s. Hotchand Jawaharmal, Calcutta?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): Replies to the Show Cause Notices issued to the firm have since been received by the Calcutta Custom Authorities. The exporters requested a personal hearing, which was fixed for the 6th April, 1961. The case will be adjudicated by the Calcutta Customs Authorities after the personal hearing and considering the points arising therefrom.

Vocational Courses for Backward Class Students in Punjab

3034. Shri Hem Raj: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of grant given to the Punjab State Government during 1960-61 and proposed to be given during 1961-62 for award of scholarships to the students of Backward Classes studying in vocational courses; and

(b) whether it is a fact that most of the students of Backward Classes have not been paid the above scholarships upto date?