

post has not yet been created, without transferring others of the category who are staying in Calcutta for far longer period than the said official; and

(b) if so, the reasons for such discrimination?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATION (DR. SHANKAR DAYAL SHARMA): (a) and (b) Some transfers of Assistant Engineers of the Calcutta Telephone District were recently ordered on administrative grounds. One of the Assistant Engineers, who is not the junior-most transferred to the adjacent West Bengal Telecommunication Circle, would be relieved from the Calcutta Telephone District only now when the post to which he is to join has become available.

Prime Minister's visit to Allahabad

7323. **PROF MADHU DANDAVATE** Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state

(a) whether the Prime Minister recently visited Allahabad High Court,

(b) the reasons for her visit to Allahabad High Court,

(c) whether any officials of the Government accompanied (Administrative) her, and

(d) details thereof?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS, MINISTER OF SPACE, MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) to (d) The Prime Minister appeared before the Allahabad High Court on the 18th and 19th March, 1975 in response to a summons from the High Court to give evidence in the election petition filed against her election by Shri Raj Narain, M.P. The Government officials who accompanied her in connection with the discharge of official duties are:—

- (1) }
 (3) } Security Staff
 (2) }

(4) **Physician.**

(5) **Private Secretary to Prime Minister.**

(6) **Addl. Private Secretary to Prime Minister.**

(7) **Personal Assistant to Prime Minister.**

(8) **Personal Attendant.**

Pending cases of grant of pension to Freedom Fighters

7324. **SHRI C D GAUTAM** Will the Minister of **HOME AFFAIRS** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any pending cases with the Home Affairs Department with regard to genuine freedom fighters who were underground workers and who had undergone lot of hardships with heavy lathi charges and other ways of harassment particularly during Civil Disobedience Movement,

(b) whether these freedom fighters have not yet been given pensions, putting forth the reasons that no warrants or official records can be traced out with the regard to the under ground role, though there is an ample evidence that they had worked underground and suffered heavily including loss of career, and

(c) if so how many such cases are pending and what definite steps and measures do the Government of India propose to take in these cases?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F H MOHSIN): (a) and (b) Under Freedom Fighters Pension Scheme—1972, a person who remained underground for more than six months will be eligible for pension, provided he was—

(i) a proclaimed offender; or

(ii) one on whom an award for arrest was announced, or

- (iii) one for whose detention order was issued but not served.

In regard to production of evidence in support of the claims of such persons, the main criteria is whether a person who was an absconder because he was wanted by the police. If, from the court records like judgment, charge-sheet or other official records, it is established that a person was really wanted by the authorities and remained underground to dodge arrest, he is considered eligible for grant of pension. However, such evidence has to be reliable. It is not possible readily to list the number of such cases pending as no separate statistics of this type of case is maintained.

(c) All those who are covered under the rule explained above and have furnished satisfactory documentary evidence in support of their claim are granted pension.

Recovery of country made pistols

7325. SHRI SAT PAL KAPUR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of country made pistols recovered by the Police during the year 1974-75 from various parts of the country and the total number of arrests made in this connection;

(b) the punishment awarded to the persons so arrested; and

(c) whether a legislation is proposed to be enacted to give exemplary punishment to such persons ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN) : (a) to (c) The requisite information is being collected from the State Governments and U.T. Administrations and will be laid on the Table of the House on receipt.

One Examination for several jobs

7326. SHRI N. K. SANGHI :

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to hold one examination, to be conducted by the U.P.S.C., for several jobs ;

(b) if so, the details of the jobs that will be covered under the scheme ; and

(c) what would be impact of this scheme in cutting down the waiting time for the job seekers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI OM MEHTA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

डाक सेवा

7327. श्री श्रीकृष्ण अग्रवाल : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या डाक-तार विभाग द्वारा हाल में किए गए सर्वेक्षण से पता चला है कि विमान से भेजी जाने वाली डाक सेवा में देरी हो जाती है तथा सड़क तथा रेल से भेजी जाने वाली डाक अपेक्षाकृत शीघ्र पहुंचती है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या हवाई डाक सेवा का पुनर्गठन करने का कोई प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो उसका व्यौरा क्या है ?

संचार मंत्री (डा० शंकर दयाल शर्मा) :

(क) विभाग की यह नीति है कि जहां फायदा हो वहां डाक ढोने का काम हवाई मार्ग द्वारा किया जाए। यदि कुछ स्थानों के बीच स्थल मार्ग से डाक ढोने में वही फायदे रहते हो, तो हवाई मार्ग से डाक ढोने के काम में अधिक खर्च होने के कारण, डाक हवाई मार्ग से नहीं ले जाई जाती। इंडियन एअर लाइंस द्वारा हाल ही में रात में हवाई डाक की उड़ाने निलम्बित करने के कारण डाक-तार विभाग ने इस स्थिति पर पुनर्विचार किया और कई मामलों में हवाई मार्ग की बजाय स्थल मार्ग से डाक ढोना लाजिमी हो गया। इस व्यवस्था से सेवा की कार्य-कुशलता में कोई बुरा असर नहीं पड़ा और आर्थिक बचत भी हुई है।