

not made on the basis of seniority as is done in the case of other categories of Government servants;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Vidya Charan Shukla): (a) to (c) Promotions with in class III and within and to class II and class I posts are made either on the basis of selection, i.e. merit of the officers with due regard to seniority or on the basis of seniority-cum-fitness or on the basis of departmental competitive examinations depending on the requirements of each case. There is generally no provision for promotion of class IV employees to class III, except in the Departments of Railways and Posts and Telegraphs. In Railways and P and T Departments promotion of class IV employees to class III posts is made on the basis of a test. This is because the nature of duties in class IV and class III is quite different from each other, and experience gained in class IV is not of a kind which can be of use and advantage for performing duties in class III posts and therefore, selection of class IV staff for class III posts can be not on the basis of the efficient performance of the class IV duties but only on the basis of mental and literary abilities of the class IV employees as assessed through written tests. Because of these considerations, class IV staff are appointed to class III posts on the basis of a test and not on the basis of seniority-cum-fitness. Hence it is not proposed to alter the existing method of selection.

Promotion of Undermatric Class IV Employees

6012. Shri Ram Singh Ayarwal: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Class IV employees who have completed fifteen years service and are still there in Class IV;

(b) whether there is any proposal under Government consideration for Class IV employees who are undermatric to promote them to Class III as Diary Clerk who have completed fifteen years service; and

(c) if so, the details of the proposal?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Vidya Charan Shukla): (a) Required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as early as possible.

(b) and (c) Comptroller and Auditor General has evolved a scheme for filling upto 10 per cent of the vacancies in the grade of LDC in the Indian Audit and Account, Department from among Class IV Staff (including non-matriculate Class IV employees) who have put in 15 years service, after holding a test. The matter is under consideration of Government.

Irregularity and Breakdown of Trunk Calls for Ahmedabad

6013. Shri R. K. Amin:
Shri Ramchandra J Amin:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state

(a) whether there have been many instances of irregularities and breakdown in trunk calls for Ahmedabad from various parts of Gujarat State during 1966-67,

(b) if so, whether Government have received any complaints in this behalf; and

(c) the action Government propose to take to set right the trunk service for Ahmedabad?

The Minister of State in the Departments of Parliamentary Affairs and Communications (Shri I. K. Gujral): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.