

In the Fourth Plan the scheme has been transferred to the State Sector.

(c) Nearly 90 lakhs of primary school children.

(d) At present there is no plan to extend the scheme to the secondary schools as the coverage of primary school children itself is far from complete. The Ministry have suggested to the States to achieve at least a minimum target of 40 per cent coverage of primary school children by the end of Fourth Plan.

Retirement Age of Central Government employees

216. Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:
Shri Meetha Lal:
Shri Shri Chand Goel:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the decision for reducing the retirement age of the Central Government employees from 58 years to 55 years has been taken at the highest level; and

(b) if so, the approximate number of officers and employees who would retire immediately following the announcement of this decision?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Vidya Charan Shukla): (a) No such decision has been taken.

(b) Does not arise.

Pak. Spies

217. Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:
Shri Meetha Lal:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a suspected Pakistani spy was arrested in Punjab on 25th April, 1967;

(b) if so, whether he belongs to a net of spies spread all over the country; and

(c) the security measures Government have taken to smash spy rings in the country?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Vidya Charan Shukla): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and it will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

(c) Adequate measures have been taken to counter espionage activities.

S.C. & S.T. in All India Services

218. Shri Meetha Lal:
Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sufficient representation is not given to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people in different all-India services on the plea that suitable candidates are not available; and

(b) if so, the percentage of shortfall of their representation in these services during the last ten years?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Vidya Charan Shukla): (a) No, Sir. Since the year 1963 there has been no shortfall in the recruitment of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe candidates against reserved vacancies.

(b) The percentage shortfall in recruitment against reserved vacancies is shown in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-356/67].

दया याचिकाएं

219. श्री प० ला० बालपाल : क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) जनवरी, 1966 से अब तक राष्ट्रपति के पास कितनी दया याचिकाएं आई हैं ; और