(१०) श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू ।

(खा) जी नहीं ।

(ग) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता ।

Employees of Directorate of Employment, Delhi.

918. Shri Anjanappa: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of employees in the Directorate of Employment, Training and Technical Education, Delhi Administration have been working as temporary employees for the last twelve years and have not been confirmed in spite of the fact that posts have been sanctioned; and

(b) if so, the reasons for not filling up these sanctioned posts?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Labour and Employment and for Planning (Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman): (a) and (b). There are only three such persons left to be confirmed. They do not fulfil the minimum educational qualifications prescribed for the posts. The relaxation of the rules in their cases is under consideration.

Expansion of Indian Navy

I Dr. L. M. Singhvi: 919. Shri D. C. Sharma: Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:

Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that it is proposed to further expand and modernise the Indian Navy;

(b) whether it is intended to effect the addition of a submarine wing and to start construction of destroyers in India with or without foreign collaboration; and

(c) if so, the steps taken in this connection so far.

The Minister of Defence (Shri Y. B. Chavan): (a) It is the intention to expand and modernise the Indian Navy, but one of the limiting factors is availability of foreign exchange involved.

(b) Acquisition of submarines is under consideration. The construction of frigates is proposed to be undertaken in India but it would have to be with foreign collaboration.

(c) It is not in the public interest to give details of steps taken in this connection so far beyond stating that certain offers from foreign collaborators for construction of frigates within the country are under consideration.

Promotions in Army

920. Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ratio of promotion of army clerks is very slow in comparison with civilian clerks;

(b) whether it is a fact that persons employed as army clerks for about 20 years have not got any promotion and if so, the number of such persons; and

(c) the ratio of promotion amongst army clerks of all ranks i.e. Sepoy, Naik, Havildar, Jemadar and Subedar to their respective higher positions?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Y. B. Chavan): (a) As the terms and conditions of service of combatant clerks are quite different from those of civilian clerks, it is not possible to make a fair comparison of their promotion prospects.

(b) A combatant clerk is normally recruited in the lowest rank, namely, sepoy. No combatant clerk with 20 years or more of service is likely to remain as a sepoy clerk except on grounds of inefficiency or lack of educational or other qualifications required for promotion. During the last World War, however, a number of