

Shri Sonavane: May I know whether there is any proposal before the Government, to reduce the disparity in salaries, and to consider amending the Constitution to bring about this reduction in disparity?

Mr. Speaker: It is a matter of policy. Next question.

Indian Statistical Service

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*645. { **Shri D. C. Sharma:**
 { **Shri Shiv Charan Gupta:**

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the constitution of Indian Statistical Service and

(b) the stage at which the matter stands at present?

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

(a) Selections for appointment to the Service at its initial constitution have been made. Certain information in respect of the selected officers was called for from the Ministries/Departments in which they are at present employed. The requisite information in respect of a majority of the officers concerned has been collected and information in respect of the remaining officers is expected shortly.

(b) Certain questions relating to the formation of the Services are still pending. It is hoped to make appointments to these Services shortly.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know what are the points with regard to the formation of this service that are still pending?

Shri Hajarnavis: 1. The question whether reservation for members of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes should be made at the time of the institutional constitution of service. 2. The question whether officers

selected for appointment at the initial constitution of the service should be appoint on probation or not.

3. The Director of the Central Statistical Organisation suggested certain amendments to the rules and they are being considered.

Shri D. C. Sharma: IAS officers and other officers are appointed after some kind of examination and after going through an ordeal at the hands of the UPSC. May I know if the same procedure will be adopted so far as the appointment to this service also is concerned?

Shri Hajarnavis: This is a technical service. For the initial constitution, we have drawn upon the persons who are already trained statisticians and economists and who are already working in the various Ministries. We want to bring them together.

Shri Shiv Charan Gupta: May I know when the decision was taken to constitute this service?

Shri Hajarnavis: In 1958 the proposal was mooted and the rules of the service were notified on 1-11-1961.

Shri Basumatarl: Since the Home Minister has not stated about the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, I want to know why the percentage of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in the services is so low and what steps Government is going to take to increase the percentage in services?

Shri Hajarnavis: Government are considering the question whether there should not be reservation at the initial constitution itself.

Shri S. N. Chaturvedi: Are government going to recruit for this service officers who are already in service or from the outside market also?

Shri Hajarnavis: The initial constitution of the service is from the officers who are already serving in various Ministries and Departments.