

(a) the number of Section Officers (Civil) in Central P.W.D. who are eligible for promotion to the grade of Assistant Engineers approximately;

(b) the number of Assistant Engineers appointed directly through the U.P.S.C. during the past six months and how many are likely to be appointed during the next six months; and

(c) the stage at which the proposal of reviewing the policy of direct recruits stands so as to either completely stop or to reduce it to the barest minimum ?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI IQBAL SINGH):** (a) 530.

(b) (i) Number so far appointed : 49

(ii) Number of persons likely to be appointed : 81

(c) A proposal for stopping direct recruitment to the temporary vacancies of Assistant Engineers is already under consideration. After a decision is reached in this proposal, direct recruitment against permanent vacancies of Assistant Engineers will be reviewed.

**DEMOTION OF ASSISTANT ENGINEER (CIVIL)**

3427. **SHRI S. D. SOMASUN-DARAM :** Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Assistant Engineers (Civil) demoted during the past six months and the number likely to be reverted in the coming six months and also the reasons for their reversions;

(b) whether there is frustration and unrest among the Section Officers (Civil); and

(c) if so, the action proposed to be taken in restoring confidence and security among the Section Officers ?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI IQBAL SINGH):** (a) The number of Assistant Engineers (Civil) reverted in the Central Public Works Department during the past six months is 17. No figure can be given at present for the coming six months as reversions, if any, will depend on the workload of the Department. The reversion of 17 Assistant Engineers (Civil) was ordered partly on account of reduction in workload and partly on account of Union Public Service Commission nominees against direct recruitment quota joining duty posts.

(b) These reversions should not cause any legitimate grievance as the Assistant Engineers (Civil) reverted as Sectional Officers (Civil) had all been promoted on purely *ad hoc* basis pending availability of U.P.S.C. nominees. Promotion of these officers was fortuitous because of the temporary non-availability of U.P.S.C. nominees against direct recruitment quota and they were well aware that they were liable for reversion at any time.

(c) Temporary promotions and reversions are inevitable in an engineering organisation where the establishment depend entirely on the work-load. A proposal to abolish direct recruitment against temporary vacancies of Assistant Engineers in the C.P.W.D. is under consideration. If this is accepted it will improve the temporary promotion prospects of Sectional Officers.

**CONSTRUCTION OF TAPPER DAM (GUJARAT)**

3428. **SHRI VIRENDRAKUMAR SHAH :** Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Gujarat Government had submitted a Project for the construction of Tapper Dam;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the same had been turned down and if so, the reasons therefor; and