

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) and (b). No Sir. Such arrangements are normally made by the pilgrims themselves, as in past years.

(c) Does not arise.

Hindi Examination for I. F. S Officers

7534. SHRI SUBRAVELU :
SHRI DEIVEEKAN :
SHRI DHANDAPANI :
SHRI NARAYANAN :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have issued instructions to the effect that officials of the Indian Foreign Service would be confirmed only on their qualifying Hindi Examination ; and

(b) if so, whether such instructions are not in violation of the Official Languages Act as amended recently ?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir. Officers of the Indian Foreign Service are required to pass a simple test in Hindi before confirmation.

(b) No, Sir.

Buildings for Defence Offices taken on Rent

7535. SHRI R. S. VIDYARTHI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names and number of buildings which have been taken on rent from the agencies other than Government to accommodate Defence Offices ; and

(b) the annual rent being paid separately for each building ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Promotion in Research and Development Organisation

7536. SHRI R. S. VIDYARTHI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in the Research and Development Organisation of his Ministry Departmental Promotions from Senior Scientific Assistants to Junior Scientific Officers are made on the basis of allotment of subject groups and not on the combined roster basis ; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that due to this, many Senior Scientific Assistants placed in certain subjects get promotions much later than their counterpart in other subjects inspite of having better qualifications and laboratory experience ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Expansion in research and development activities in some subjects has been more rapid than in others. Consequently promotions in such subjects have also been quicker.

Research and Development Organisation

7537. SHRI R. S. VIDYARTHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state the number of posts of Junior Scientific Officers in Research and Development Organisation of his Ministry filled separately by departmental promotions from Senior Scientific Assistants and by direct recruitment including Research Fellowship/ Apprenticeship Scheme in each of the 17 subject groups, year-wise since 1962 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA): The information is given in the statements at Annexures 'A' and 'B', laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-907/68*]. Under the rules, upto 50 per cent of the vacancies in the grade of Junior Scientific Officer may be filled by promotion. The number of promotees has been less than the permissible figure because most of the Research and Development Establishments/Laboratories came up between 1962-64 and departmental candidates were not available/eligible for promotion.