

(c) It was not considered necessary to invite tenders by public notification on account of the fact that so far as the chairs for the auditorium were concerned only a few firms in the country were specialised in making such furniture. Therefore, limited tenders were invited. In regard to the rest of the furniture only such firms which could execute designs suggested by the office of the Small Scale Industries were invited to tender.

(d) Prior sanction of the Governing Body was not required as the President had full powers to sanction any expenditure within the budgetary allocations approved by the said Governing Body. The Secretary also had power to sanction upto Rs. 1,000/- per item within these allocations.

**Abolition of Posts in Indian Council for Cultural Relations**

2232. **Shri Brij Raj Singh:**  
**Shri Bade:**

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts recommended for abolition in the meeting of the Governing Body of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations held on the 23rd February, 1964;

(b) the number of posts actually abolished by the Council in implementation of the above recommendation;

(c) whether all the posts recommended for abolition have since been abolished; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) No meeting of the Governing Body was held on 23rd February, 1964. However, a meeting of the Governing Body was held on 24th March, 1964, when a decision was taken to abolish five posts.

(b) Five.

(c) Yes.

(d) Does not arise.

**Voluntary Retirement Scheme**

2233. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of Central Government employees have volunteered to seek retirement in response to the Voluntary Retirement scheme but their request has not been acceded to; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Vidya Charan Shukla):** (a) and (b). The benefits of voluntary retirement scheme referred to can be allowed only to the staff rendered surplus and transferred to the Central Pool in the Ministry of Home Affairs. Certain Government Officers did apply for voluntary retirement but their requests were not acceded to as they did not fulfil the prescribed conditions. Requests from certain other officers are under consideration.

**Losses in Central Government Employees Consumers Cooperative Stores, New Delhi**

2234. **Shri Maurya:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government Employees' Consumer, Cooperative Stores, New Delhi, have suffered huge losses;

(b) if so, whether any investigation has been made into the matter; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to make up the losses suffered by the Stores?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri P. S. Nasrkar):** (a) No, Sir. The Society earned a net profit of Rs. 1,30,301 and Rs. 1,70,929 during years 1963-64 and 1964-65 respectively. The Profit &