

scholarships awards under the scheme has been held in English so far, but from the current year, it is being held also in all regional languages.

U. P. S. C. Examinations In Regional Languages

737. SHRI BISWANARAYAN

SHASTRI :
 SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU :
 SHRI HARDAYAL DEVGUN :
 SHRIMATI SAVITRI SHYAM :
 SHRI PRAKASH VIR SHASTRI:
 SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK :
 SHRI RANJIT SINGH :
 SHRI D. C. SHARMA :
 SHRI BENI SHANKER
 SHARMA :
 SHRI YASHWANT SINGH
 KUSHWAH :
 SHRI RABI RAY :
 SHRI VALMIKI CHOUDHARY :
 SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have asked the Union Public Service Commission to hold examinations in all the languages mentioned in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution ;

(b) if so, when this procedure will come into operation ;

(c) what is the progress made so far in this regard ;

(d) whether a machinery has been set up for the evaluation of answer papers in different languages ;

(e) whether the introduction of all languages will create problems and will lead to decline of standards of efficiency ; and

(f) if so, how Government propose to remove these difficulties ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) The Commission have been informed of the

decision to introduce the languages mentioned in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution, besides English, as optional media for the All India and higher Central Services Examinations after ascertaining the advice of the Commission regarding the procedural aspects, the timing and if necessary, the phasing for the implementation of this decision.

(b) and (c). Government expect that a beginning will be made with effect from the Combined Competitive Examinations for recruitment to the IAS etc. to be held this year.

(d) to (f). The Commission is already seized of the problems arising out of the introduction of the various languages as alternative media and have taken necessary steps to ensure that the existing standards of the examination are maintained.

Conversion of Harijans to Christianity

741. SHRI CHINTAMANI
 PANIGRAHI :
 SHRI BABURAO PATEL :
 SHRI OM PRAKASH TYAGI :
 SHRI BHOLA NATHMASTER :
 DR. KARNI SINGH :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to State :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the statement made by Shri Jagjivan Ram, the Union Food Minister, in which he has said that India might face the demand for the creation of a 'Christianistan' in 10 or 15 years if conversion of Harijans to Christianity continued ;

(b) whether Government have taken serious note of such conversions ; and

(c) whether any effective measures are under the contemplation of Government to prevent such conversions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) The Union Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation, while speaking extempore at the Bhartiya