

to scientists, who, on their selection for appointment in research institutions in India, undertake to serve those institutions for a minimum period of three years.

- (B) Some of the measures taken to improve employment opportunities for scientists and engineers are given below:—
- (1) Scientists are given merit promotion and advance increments under the Merit Promotion Scheme.
 - (2) Merit of scientists from senior Scientific Assistant onwards to the level of Scientists 'C' (Rs. 700-1250) is assessed once in five years for promotion to the next higher post.
 - (3) Fellowships are provided in the National Laboratories/Institutes and outside research institutions and Universities to encourage scientific talent in the country.
 - (4) Grant-in-aid to Scientists to carry out research.
 - (5) As a result of the assessment of Fourth Plan development needs of the universities, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has agreed to provide assistance for the creation of senior staff positions in various specialities/university departments. Provision has also been made for further development of laboratory and other facilities including the purchase of specialised equipment. Opportunities are thus being made available for advanced work/research in various fields for scholars and scientists having the requisite qualifications.
 - (6) The UGC has been providing special assistance to carefully selected university/university departments to function as Centers of Advanced Study in specific fields. The aim is to provide suitable conditions and facilities for advance studies and research and to attract competent personnel for work at the Centers;
 - (7) The UGC has also brought about improvement in the salary scales

of teachers of universities and colleges which are expected to attract and retain the services of highly qualified people;

- (8) The UGC has all along emphasised the importance of attracting a reasonable proportion of our men and women of high intellectual ability to the teaching profession. Besides improving the salary scales of teachers in the Universities and colleges, efforts have been made to provide essential amenities and incentives for the teaching profession. Financial assistance is being provided for research learned and work, exchange of teachers, travel grants for visiting centers of research in advanced study in the country and for attending international conferences abroad, construction of staff quarters and Teachers hostels etc.

Dispute in court about formation of Chandigarh as Union Territory at the time of Reorganisation of Punjab

2843. SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the formation of the Union Territory of Chandigarh was challenged in the Court after the State of Punjab was bifurcated into Punjab and Haryana; and

(b) if so, the detailed report thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) and (b). The validity of section 4 of the Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966, relating to the formation of Union territory of Chandigarh and certain other sections of the Act was recently challenged in write petition No. 1013 of 1969 before the Delhi High Court. The petitioner had also prayed for the implementation of 'Shah Commission' report in toto in respect of Chandigarh. The High Court dismissed the petition on the 12th January, 1970