

*[English]***Vacant Posts for Scheduled Tribe**

976. SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts vacant under various categories in his ministry/department, State-wise;

(b) the steps taken to clear the said backlog;

(c) whether other persons are working on the posts in place of posts reserved for ST's;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and designation-wise; and

(e) the concrete steps taken to clear the entire backlog?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (e) A *statement* giving the number of Posts in different Groups reserved for Scheduled Tribes, lying vacant, is enclosed.

Even at the time of filling up the vacant posts, all efforts are made to fulfil the quota prescribed for the Scheduled Tribes. However, if suitable candidates belonging to Scheduled Tribes are not available, the reservations are usually carried forward to the subsequent recruitment years in accordance with the procedure prescribed by the Government. Posts reserved for Scheduled Tribes are not filled up by other persons unless they are deserved first as per the prescribed procedure. Besides, where the method of recruitment is direct recruitment, dereservation of posts is not permissible.

**Statement**

Sl. No.	Category of post	Total no. of posts reserved for Scheduled Tribes lying vacant at present	Steps taken to clear the backlog
1	2	3	4
1.	Group 'A'	—	Reservation Policy in respect of Group 'A' posts is implemented by the Department of Personnel & Training.

1	2	3	4
2.	Group 'B' (Gazetted)	15	Vacancies have been reported to the Department of Personnel & Training; they in turn report these vacancies to the Union Public Service Commission/Staff Selection Commission, wherever necessary.
3.	Group 'B' (Non gazetted)	29	
4.	Group 'C'	37	
5.	Group 'D'	21	These posts are filled up by direct recruitment from amongst candidates sponsored by the Employment Exchange. The recruitment process has already begun.

Note:—There are no state-wise quotas in respect of the posts in the Ministry of Home Affairs.

*[Translation]***Environmental Awareness**

977. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to introduce any new Action Plan to create public awareness in the field of environment; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) Several schemes such as National Environment Awareness Campaign, Paryavaran Vhini, Eco-Clubs, etc. are already being implemented for creation of environmental awareness amongst general public. The Ministry is going to launch a vigorous public awareness programme for eradicating pollution, the details of which are being worked out.

*[English]***Paddy Procurement Centres**

978. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state: