

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2071
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2000
DEMANDS MADE BY FORUM OF SC / ST MPS
BUTA SINGH

Will the Minister of PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether forum of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Members of Parliament in the representations submitted to then Prime Minister on December, 17, 1996 September 1, 1997 and July 23, 1998 have demanded posting of adequate number of SCs/STc Officers as Secretary to the Central Government/equivalent posts under the autonomous statutory subordinate and attached Offices of various Ministries and Departments;
- (b) if so, the action taken thereon and results achieved since 1996;
- (c) the number of posts of Secretary under the Central Government/autonomous subordinate and statutory organisation and number of SCs/STs Officers working against such post as on January 1, 1996 and January, 1, 2000 and their percentage as compared to the total posts;
- (d) the nature and composition of the Committee/board which empanels persons for such associating persons belonging to SCs/STs on such Committee/Boards; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF DEPARTMENT OF (SMT. VASUNDHARA RAJE) PERSONNEL AND TRAINING AND DEPARTMENT OF PENSION AND PENSIONERS' WELFARE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS.

(a): Parliamentary Forum for SCs/STs had, among other matters, represented that conscious efforts should be mounted to bring suitable individuals belonging to SCs and STs available in the Country to important posts including that of Secretary to Government of India in reasonable numbers.

(b): Appointment of officers belonging to SCs/STs at the level of Secretary or equivalent posts in Government of India essentially depends upon the number of officers belonging to that category who had joined the service over 32 years ago, their availability in terms of their being still in service, their willingness for being posted in Delhi and their being spared for Central deputation. Eligible and available officers belonging to the SCs/STs are considered along with others for appointment to posts of Secretary/equivalent posts in Government of India and those found suitable and are available are appointed to such posts.

(c): As on 1.1.96, 108 officers were holding posts of Secretary/equivalent in Government of India. Number of SC/ST officers who were holding such posts as on that date is not available.
As on 1.1.2000, 153 officers were holding posts of Secretary/equivalent in the Government of India. Out of those, 92 were IAS officers and out of them, 4 belonged to the SC/ST category.
IAS officers belonging to 1963 to 1966 batches have been empanelled and appointed to posts of Secretary/equivalent in Government of India from 1995 till date. One SC/ST officer each of 1963, 1964 and 1965 batches and three of 1966 batch of the IAS were empanelled and appointed to Secretary or Secretary equivalent posts on Central Deputation.

(d) & (e): Officers belonging to the IAS and other Central Services Group 'A' are empanelled for holding the posts of Secretary or Secretary equivalent in the Government of India, with the approval of the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet

(ACC), on the recommendation of a Special Committee of Secretaries which consists of the Cabinet Secretary, Principal Secretary to Prime Minister, Home Secretary and Secretary (Personnel). All these members of the Committee are ex-officio.

