

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3418

ANSWERED ON:20.08.2004

RECOMMENDATION FOR DOWNSIZING STRENGTH OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Yadav Shri Kailash Nath Singh

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the Expenditure Reforms Commission recommended for downsizing the strength of Government employees;
- (b) If so, the details thereof;
- (c) The total number of employees cut down, category-wise during the last five years;
- (d) Whether the Government has any proposal for further downsizing the strength of Government employees; and
- (e) If so, the details thereof, Ministries/Department and PSU-wise?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Shri S.S.Palanimanickam)

(a) to (c): The Expenditure Reforms Commission was set up on 28.2.2000 and was wound up on 30.9.2001. It submitted fe all, 10 reports covering 36 Ministries/Departments, identifying about 42,000 posts for abolition. On further scrutiny, Ministries/Departments identified 24,326 posts in Central Government and autonomous bodies. So far, 18,682 posts have been abolished. Category-wise details are not maintained. The Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions had also issued orders dated 16.5.2001 restricting direct recruitment to 1/3 of the annual direct recruitment vacancies, subject to the condition that this does not exceed 1% of the total strength of a particular Department. Till date, around 87,000 posts have been identified for abolition and around 36,000 posts have been identified to be filled up.

(d) & (e): The downsizing/rightsizing of the Central Government machinery so as to reduce the non-plan and non developmental administrative expenditure, is a continuous process. The Expenditure Reforms Commission had not reviewed the PSUs.