

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:145

ANSWERED ON:03.12.2014

CSAT

Kumar Shri Kaushalendra;Thota Shri Narasimham

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

- (a) whether a three member Committee appointed to look into the Civil Services Aptitude Test (CSAT) has submitted its report;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the recommendations made in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government has accepted the recommendations of the said Committee;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the final decision taken by the Government to resolve the concerns of the civil services aspirants?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office.
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT AS REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 145 ASKED BY SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR AND SHRI NARASIMHAM THOTA REGARDING CSAT FOR ANSWER ON 3.12.2014

(a) to (b): The Central Government, in pursuance to the Hon'ble Delhi High Court's order dated 31.5.2013 constituted a three member Committee in March, 2014 under the chairmanship of Shri Arvind Varma to look specifically into the issue relating to the nature of the test of knowledge of English language in the Civil Service Examination (CSE) i.e. whether it is to be only qualifying or competitive or mixture of both. The said Committee submitted its report to the Government on 31st July 2014. The Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination consists of Paper-I & Paper-II of 200 marks each inter-alia with a component on 'English Language Comprehension Skills Test' in Paper-II from CSE 2011. The Committee recommended the existing Scheme of Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination to continue but suggested a review of the Scheme every five years.

(c) to (e): Several representations have been received from various quarters on issues concerning the Scheme of Examination ever since the changes in the Civil Service (Preliminary) Examination took place from CSE 2011. These issues were further raised in the last Monsoon Session of the Parliament. After due consideration, the Central Government has decided that in the Paper-II of Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination, the marks of the question-section on "English Language comprehension skills" are not to be included for gradation or merit, in the CSE 2014. A notification in this regard was issued on 16.08.2014. It has also been decided that candidates who appeared in Civil Services Examination 2011, would be given one more attempt in CSE 2015.

Further, the Central Government discussed the issues concerning the Civil Service Examination in an All Party Leaders Meeting held on 23.11.2014. The suggestions from the political parties have been sought in this regard before taking a view on the concerns raised.