

(ii) Need to set up second Bench of Allahabad High Court at Agra as recommended by Jaswant Singh Commission

SHRI GANGA RAM (Ferozabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the question of setting up a Bench of Allahabad High Court in Western Uttar Pradesh is under the consideration of the Government and because of certain opinions expressed recently, in this connection, its setting up at Agra has become controversial due to which there is great resentment among the people of Agra, particularly among the intelligentsia and they are agitated. The main reason for this is that the decision on the subject has been unduly delayed. The position is quite clear. The Government of Uttar Pradesh accepting in principle that a Bench should be set up in the Western Uttar Pradesh has left the choice of the place to the Central Government. For this purpose, the Government of India had constituted the Jaswant Singh Commission which after in-depth study of the issue has recommended long back to the Government of India the setting up of the Bench at Agra. This process has cost the nation a sizeable amount of money, time and energy. Therefore, before the situation is complicated further, the Government of India should finalise the issue immediately and announced the setting up of the Bench at Agra.

[English]

(iii) Need to take action to recover the difference between the price of certain bulk drugs allowed in the formulations and actual purchase of those drugs from the companies to whom notices were issued under the Drugs Price Control Order, 1979

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI (Ghosi) : In 1983 and 1984 notices under Para 7(2) of Drugs Price Control Order, 1979 were issued to the producers of certain drugs in order to recover the difference between the price of these bulk drugs allowed in the formulations and the actual purchases of these drugs. Out of these cases only the case of one company has been pursued but the cases of the remaining companies have

not been pursued. Not only this even the information to work out the differences has not been obtained. No efforts have been made to verify the purchase records either. In this process consumer has been overcharged crores of Rupees estimated around 150 crores but Government have taken no action in the matter to recover unintended benefit made at the cost of poor consumer. I request Government to take action in each case and recover the money from each company.

(iv) Demand for increasing the age limit from 26 years to 28 years for appearing in Civil Services Examinations

SHRI K.J. ABBASI (Domariaganj) : The age-limit for the candidates appearing for Civil Services Examination conducted by the Union Public Service Commission which was 28 years was reduced to 26 years for the 1987 examination.

The reduction in the age-limit to 26 years had an adverse effect on the candidates ambitious of joining Civil Services, particularly on those who come from rural areas where they generally complete their graduation at the age of 23-24 years. It may be noted that candidates from rural areas have lesser or no facilities for preparing for their tests as compared to those living in urban areas where they have an advantage of availing of better preparatory courses. Thus, one or two chances which a candidate can avail of due to this age-limit are not sufficient keeping in view the educational standards in rural areas and lack of facilities available to them. As a result, many talents remain deprived of entering the Civil Services.

Whereas the Commission has fixed the age limit for Engineering Services Examination at 28 years, there is no justification why 26 years should be the age limit for Civil Services Examinations.

I would, therefore, like to draw the attention of Home Minister and request him to take action so that the age limit for Civil Services Examination is increased to 28 years in order to enable the rural candidates to avail of fair chance of taking the examination.