

drive, 2,000 candidates belonging to SCs and STs were selected to the posts of Class III and Class IV by the Defence Ministry in the year 1990. Police verification and medical examination of the selected candidates were completed. But no appointment orders have been issued for them for the last three years. Since they stand selected, their names have been removed from the live register of job-seekers that are being maintained in the office of Employment Exchange. They have also crossed their age limit prescribed for the recruitment. Hence they have been left in a lurch.

It is said that a restriction is imposed on certain category of jobs in the Ministry of Defence and this has affected the jobs that are to be filled up under special recruitment drive for SCs and STs. At the same time candidates selected by the U.P.S.C. for the posts of Asst. Development Offices (Engineering) were filled up despite the restrictions. The backlog in filling up of the posts from the SCs and STs quota is considerable. These 2,000 dalit youths are indigent and they are being driven to starvation.

Hence I urge upon the Government of India to consider the sufferings of these 2,000 dalit youths compassionately and appoint them by avoiding further delay.

[Translation]

(iii) Need to evolve a scheme for the welfare of the Children involved in begging

SHRIMATI SANTOSH CHOWDHARY (Phillaur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Poverty, illiteracy and economic imbalances have given birth to so many evils which

have become the burning problems in the country today. The anti-social elements take advantage during these unfavourable circumstances.

12.42 hrs. --

[SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE *in the Chair*]

Neither, to be hungry is a sin nor begging is a curse. It is shameful that the orphan and helpless children are being forced into beggary. No improvement can be brought to the orphan and miserable children involved in begging by giving 5 or 10 paise to the orphan and miserable children involved in begging at public places like the railway station, bus stop, temple and mosque if their habits are not changed rather it leads their life to ruin.

Therefore, I would urge the Central Government to evolve a welfare scheme for these poor and orphan children and make them self-reliant and thereby protect the future of our country.

[English]

(iv) Need to upgrade Post Office in Hailakandi Town, district Hailakandi, Assam

SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS (Karimganj): The Post Office in Hailakandi Town, District Hailakandi, Assam is still a Sub-Post Office although the town is a District Headquarters. In respect of financial affairs the town is totally dependent on Silchar General Post Office. As a result of this, town-dwellers and others are suffering a lot of inconvenience due to delay in encashment of money. This