

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Appointment of Compassionate grounds to group 'A' and 'B' Posts

1653. SHRI KIRPAL SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether appointments on compassionate grounds are made to Groups C and D posts only;

(b) if so, the reasons for not making appointments on compassionate grounds to Groups 'A' and 'B' posts when the dependent/wife of the deceased Government employee has the requisite qualifications;

(c) the alternative jobs given to the wife/dependant in such a situation;

(d) whether the Government have received representations in this regard; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (e). Though requests for compassionate appointments in Group 'A' and Group 'B' posts have been received on odd occasions, such requests have not been agreed to and candidates have only been offered appointment to suitable Group 'C' or Group 'D' posts subject to their being qualified. Government are not in favour of compassionate appointments to Group 'A' and 'B' posts for the following reasons:

(i) The objective is only to provide relief to the bereaved family which is in immediate need of assistance purely on grounds of compassion. This objective is met by offering appointment in a suitable Group 'C' or Group 'D' post.

(ii) It will not be in order to make appointment to Group 'A' and 'B' posts in relaxation of the rules without following the normal procedure of recruitment as this would dilute the standard of selection for such posts involving higher duties and responsibilities and would consequently have an adverse impact on administrative efficiency. The number of vacancies to be filled by direct recruitment in Group 'A' and Group 'B' is also limited. As the number of vacancies in Groups 'C' and 'D' is more, it is possible to absorb cases of appointments on compassionate grounds in relaxation of the normal rules and procedures at these levels without any appreciable adverse impact on efficiency.

Role of Coast Guard

1654. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the main objections of the Coast Guard towards the Government's charter fishing policy;

(b) whether the Coast Guard has expressed its inability to allow exploitation of the Exclusive Economic Zone;

(c) if so, the details thereof and whether the Government propose to make fresh assessment of the role and functions of the Coast Guard; and