(b) All unfilled vacancies, whether in the departmental quota or in the direct recruitment quota, will be carried forward and filled according to Recruitment Rules. in the ratio of 75: 25 between direct recruits and departmental canditates.

Promotion to the Post of Assistant Executive Engineer in M.E.S.

9693. SHRI S. D. SOMASUNDARAM: Will the MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state the likely time by which all the 434 Graduate engineers who have completed more than 5 years service in Military Engineer Service as Suprintendent Buildings and Roads, Electrical and Mechanical Grade I will be promoted to the rank of Assistant Executive Engineer, even after increasing the departmental quota of promotions from Superintendent (Building and Roads, Electrical/Mechanical) Grade I to the post of Assistant Executive Engineer (Buildings and Roads, Electrical and Mechaaical) from 10 to 25 per cent ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE SWARAN SINGH): Superin-(SHRI (Buildings & Roads tendents Electrical & Mechanical) Grade I, can be considered for promotion to the rank of Assistant Executive Engineer only after they have been promoted to Grade I Charge Holder. At present there are 61 graduate engineers holding to rank of Grade I Charge Holder. Against the expected average of 25 vacancies in the rank of Assistant Executive Engineer per year, 6 Grade I Charge Holders may expect to be considered for promotion on the basis of merit-cum-seniority, against 6 vacancies, along with other Superintendents, Grade I Charge-Holders who are not graduates.

Introduction of post of Assistant Engineer in Military Engineering Service

9694. SHRI S.D. SOMASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE by pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the introduction of class II gazetted post of Assistant Engineer in the Military Engineering Service to bring it at par with other Central Engineering Departments like C. P. W.D., G.R. E.F., etc., was recommended by the Engineer-in-Chief. Army Head Quarters to

Collection and Distribution of 1. T. (C.A.) the Ministry of Defence in January, 1968:

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SWARAN SINGH): (a) and (b). A proposal for the introduction of Assistant Engineer (Class II) in the M. E. S. was made in February, 1968. Thereafter an alternative proposal has been made to upclassify the post of Charge Holder to Class II (Gazetted), and the matter is under the consideration of Government.

Correction of Answer to Unstarred Question No. 4442 dated 26-3-1969 regarding Irregularities Detected by Audit Department in Indian High Commission, U. K.

MINISTER OF EXTERNAL THE AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): The High Commission of India, London, reported in November, 1966 to the Director of Audit, London, an irregularity in the Mails Branch involving £ 5,240. The two locally recruited official involved, Sarvashri Jugar Singh and N. C. Bose, were dismissed after due enquiry from Service without pension or gratuity.

- 2. In addition, a suspected case of defalcation in the passport Branch of the Consular Department came to the notice of the Director of Audit, London, in August-September 1968. Detailed investigations are in progress.
- 3. It is not correct that the accounts of the Consular Department were not audited for the last three years.

12.12 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPOR-TANCE-contd.

ATTORNEY - GENERAL'S OPINION ON ADVANCE COLLECTION OF INCOME TAX AND DISTRIBUTION TO STATES-contd.

MR. SPEAKER: Questions to be asked on the statement laid on the Table yesterday; Shri Mangalathu madam.,