

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN : As far as the officers are concerned, I think, there is a normal reorganisation and changes going on. As in every Department, there is a mix of the old and the new depending upon the experience they have and the new expertise we require. There is no rigid rule. But we believe in reorganisation and changing personnel from time to time.

The other question raised by the hon. Member is about using non-conventional sources of energy. It is going on. Solar energy is being thought of. But it has not been achieved on a significant scale.

One more point is raised by the hon. Member.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : That is congratulations.

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN : Thank you.

SHRI KAMAL NATH : The Department of Electronics and the Electronics Commission were set up when the development of electronics was just taking place. It has so happened over a period of time that electronics has come to everything whether it is heater or whether it is juicer.

So, would the Government now examine what role of the Electronics Commission and the Department of Electronics should play 20 year or 10 years after formation. Now, every Department of the Government has to make a reference and a cross-reference to this Apex Body, the Department of Electronics or the Electronics Commission. They could have their own electronics expertise in their Department which should be able to assess what they need in that direction rather than making cross-references all the time to the Electronics Commission or the Electronics Department who would certify. "This is on ; this is off."

Will this be reviewed in the light of electronics being something of day to day use or hour to hour use almost ?

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN : Electronics are a very high-level technology. I do not think it would be possible for us to

try to establish in every Ministry, an Electronics Division or the expertise to deal with this. I think, we would be frittering away our resources and we will not receive significant results if we do that. It is necessary to have a very knowledgeable expert body to look into everything and react with every Department. There are Committees and Bodies which have been set up to understand the requirements of these Departments.

I agree with the hon. Member that electronics has entered almost every field of life. But we cannot have electronics expertise for developing these things in every field of life, or Department. Therefore, having a Central mechanism of Electronics Department as well as the Electronics Commission, reacting with the Ministries like the Tele-Communication Ministry and research laboratories and research institutions in an essential requirement for success in this field.

Non-availability of SC/ST Candidates for Recruitment

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*375. **SHRI RAM SWAROOP RAM :**

SHRI A. CHARLES :

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state :

(a) whether in its latest report, the UPSC has observed that it could not recommend any person belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for appointment in case of a number of posts to be filled by interview as no application has been received from candidates belonging to the respective category during 1985-86 ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether such a situation arose in the last three years also ; and

(d) the remedial measures proposed in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (d). A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) and (b). Out of 3022 posts, for which recruitment by interview was made by UPSC during 1985-86, 521 posts were reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Of these, only for 69 posts no applications were received from candidates belonging to these categories. The fields in which suitable candidates could not be found mainly related to higher specialisation in Engineering, Medicine and Science and Technology.

(c) Yes Sir. The corresponding figure was 123 for 1982-83, 106 for 1983-84 and 98 for 1984-85 which shows a decreasing trend.

(d) The UPSC has been taking the following steps to recruit as many candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as possible against posts reserved for them :

- Publishing Advertisements in 171 newspapers of various languages all over the country.
- Sending copies of advertisements to Indian Embassies/Missions abroad for circulation.
- Contacting various authorities and institutions in the field including the office of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, for sponsoring names of suitable SC/ST candidates.

Every Recruitment Rules contains a provision that the experience prescribed in the rules relaxable at the discretion of the UPSC for the SC/ST candidates for the posts reserved for them. In addition the standard of selection may be relaxed, where necessary, by the UPSC for SC/ST candidates.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, applications were invited from candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for 69 posts reserved for these categories. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how many

posts were there for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes respectively out of these 69 posts ? How many of these posts were technical and how many were non-technical ? In his reply, the hon. Minister has stated that the report of the Commission for 1985-86 has not yet been received. In 1982-83, the applications for 123 posts were not received from these categories and I agree that in 1983-84 also there is a decreasing trend. But I must say that full publicity should be given in this respect through newspapers. There are local newspapers in which these advertisements do not appear and, as a result, there are many people even today who do not know about it. I agree that applications were not received for technical posts, but I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the same was true of non-technical posts as well ?

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, in 1985-86, the Commission recruited against 3022 posts. Out of these posts, 326 were reserved for Scheduled Castes; 167 for Scheduled Tribes and 28 for both Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, making a total of 521 posts. As against the 521 posts for which recruitment was done, no applications were received in respect of 69 posts. In my statement, I have said that the corresponding figure for 1982-83 was 123; for 1983-84, it was 106; for 1984-85, it was 98 and for 1985-86 it is 69, which shows that the efforts taken by the Government and the UPSC to publicise these posts, and the special step taken, are bearing fruit. But I would like to say that we will continue to redouble our effort to see that this number 69 is reduced to zero.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM SWAROOP RAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, our Prime Minister is very much concerned about Harijans, Adivasis and other weaker sections and he has a serious commitment for them. With this end in view, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether Government has prepared outline of any programme aimed at increasing the interest of these weaker sections in the field of science and

technology and spreading special type of education among them, so that this backlog is reduced, they are properly groomed to get representation in every field and the Prime Minister's worries are also over ?

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I agree with the sentiments expressed by the hon. Member.

(Interruptions)

SHRI A. CHARLES : Sir, I am happy to go through the answer and I am happy that sufficient care has been taken to see that as far as possible, the posts earmarked for recruitment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are being filled up and steps are being taken also. I would just like to point out that wherever experience is fixed, the UPSC has laid down rules even to relax experience and qualification also. But along with that, I would like to make one more suggestion. From the answer, we see that it has been mentioned : "the fields in which suitable candidates could not be found mainly related to higher specialisation in Engineering and Medicine.." As you all know, these are specialities and super-specialities. So, the ordinary candidates from Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe community may be available with the basic qualification—for example, in the case of Medicine, a Post-Graduate Degree in Medicine, and in the case of Engineering, a Post-Graduate Degree in Engineering. But the difficulty is to get candidates with further super-specialities. In that case, may I know whether the Government will give necessary instructions to the UPSC to select candidates with their basic qualification and to send them for super-specialisation within the period of probation. That will be one more encouragement to these oppressed classes.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Recruitment of Group 'A' and Group 'B' categories is entirely within the purview of the UPSC. The UPSC has the authority to relax the qualifications in suitable cases. Therefore, I don't think it would be proper for the Government to issue a direction that they should relax the Post-Graduate qualification or..

SHRI A. CHARLES : May I correct ? It may be in the nature of advice.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I shall convey the views of hon. Members to the UPSC. It is really the UPSC which has the authority and discretion to relax qualifications in suitable cases.

[Translation]

SHRI ARVIND NETAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a fact that very few candidates belonging to Harijans and Adivasi are available in the fields of engineering, medicine and science. The hon. Minister has stated that there are three media through which advertisements are released and publicity is made. The first is newspapers. The second is publicity through the Indian embassies abroad. Thirdly, the Commissioner of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is asked to sponsor candidates. Sir, we recently visited North East where we found that besides these specialised fields, candidates belonging to Scheduled Tribes are not available even for general categories of posts. Candidates are not available even for class III and class IV posts. I feel that due publicity is not given for this purpose. A very short time is given for it. Will the hon. Minister consider giving more time for this and evolving some other agency so as to give more and more publicity in Adivasi areas ? Will he consider associating M.Ps. with it so that they too could make efforts at their own level ?

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : The UPSC has been taking a number of steps to see that information reaches the far corners of the country. I have, in my statement, referred to publishing advertisements in 171 newspapers, sending copies of advertisements to Embassies and Missions abroad and contacting various authorities and institutions in the field, including the office of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. In recent years the UPSC has adopted another method, namely, for each discipline and each level, we prepare a list known as the 'Personal Contact List' and write to people on the Personal Contact List to sponsor or encourage

applicants to apply. For example, in a post where chemistry qualification was required, the UPSC prepared a list of professors of chemistry in different universities as well as scientists in different laboratories and wrote to them asking them to sponsor candidates. I think, with this and more steps to be taken, we will be able to bring down the trend further. The trend is a declining trend and we hope to be able to wipe out the arrears in the next few years.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : In Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's regime, Government promised to provide special training for these people, to such of them as expressed their readiness to apply and compete for these positions. I would like to know whether the Government is pursuing that policy and if so, whether they have made any progress in that direction.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : There are pre-examination training centres and coaching centres run by the Ministry of Welfare for people taking the Civil Services Examination. I am not aware, I am not sure, whether there are similar centres for other examinations. I will find out and inform the hon. Member.

Maharashtra-Karnataka border dispute

*376. **DR. DATTA SAMANT :** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the progress achieved so far in resolving the border dispute between Maharashtra and Karnataka by holding meetings between the Chief Ministers of both the States ;

(b) how many meetings have been held so far ; and

(c) whether Government are considering to hold an opinion poll to resolve the issue ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) to (c). The Government of India have always been of the view that this dispute can be resolved only with the willing co-operation of the State Governments

concerned. The Central Government remain in touch with both the State Governments in connection with their bilateral discussions. Central assistance as required in arriving at a mutually acceptable solution to the problem will be rendered.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : I have been hearing this answer in this House for the last so many years. The problem is this. 814 Marathi-speaking villages and towns are put up in Karnataka and 250 Kannada-speaking villages and towns are put up in Maharashtra. We are asking only for balanced adjustment; we are not asking for anything else. Injustice has been done to Maharashtra. The Mahajan Commission's recommendations have not been accepted by this House so far, and that has been reiterated by all the Prime Ministers before. In the last three years whenever this point is discussed, it is said that it is left to be discussed between the two Chief Ministers. The Maharashtra Chief Minister has taken pains to talk three or four times. Now the Chief Minister of Karnataka has flatly refused and has issued a statement that nothing will come out by having the mutual meetings; he is not prepared to discuss the problem with the Chief Minister of Maharashtra. Even the hon. Home Minister tried to see the Chief Minister on this issue. As per my knowledge, he has refused to see regarding this issue. Therefore, what happens to the sentiments of the people living in the border areas of Belgaum and Dharwar ? For how long is the Government going to wait ? What I suggest is : put some time limit for your so-called holy thinking that something will come out. Are you going to put some time limit regarding the discussion between the two Chief Ministers ? If not, are you going to appoint some judge of the Supreme Court to study the Mahajan Committee Report and give fresh recommendations in considering the village as a unit, contiguity of the border and the opinion poll ? Are you going to consider something of that type ?

MR. SPEAKER : Is it a holy question or unholy question ?

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : As you already know, Mr. Datta Samant