

**Promotion of District Collectors  
and District Magistrates as  
Joint Secretaries**

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**\*28 SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE :  
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :**

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of IAS officers who were empanelled in the list of Joint Secretaries in 1987;

(b) whether it is a fact that many officers of the IAS who served as District Collectors and District Magistrates have not been empanelled in the latest list of Joint Secretaries ; and

(c) if so, whether it is proposed to review the list ?

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) A part of the 1969 batch of IAS officers and some review cases of officers belonging to certain batches were considered for empanelment in 1987. 25 IAS officers were empanelled in this process during 1987.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. Since it is expected that almost all IAS officers have district experience within the 17 years of minimum service required for them to be eligible to be considered for the post of Joint Secretaries, there would be no selectivity, if some with district experience were not to be excluded

SHRI MURALIDHAR MANE Sir, just now the Hon. Minister has given the reply that a part of the 1969 batch of IAS Officers were considered for empanelment, for promotion. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether there are any specific criteria or promotional guidelines because in certain cases promotions have been given to some officers by-passing some senior officers. Do they have any firm guidelines or promotional procedures to promote the officers ?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, at the level of Joint Secretaries there is a very well established procedure for empanelment. Under this procedure, we take into account all relevant considerations including experience and the record of the officer.

SHRI MURALIDHAR MANE : Sir, my specific question is, are there any cases where promotions have been given to some officers by-passing some senior officers and what are the reasons for not promoting those officers ?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, I would submit that empanelment is not the same as promotion. Officers belong to various cadres of the States. Empanelment at the level of Joint Secretary is only for assessing the suitability of the officers to hold the post at the level of Joint Secretary in the Government of India. If the officer is not empanelled for holding the post of Joint Secretary in the Government of India, that does not mean he is not promoted or he cannot hold equivalent or higher post in the State Cadre. Empanelment and promotion are two different things.

**BBC Broadcasting**

**\*29. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the programme broadcast by the BBC on 18th January, 1988 which is reported to be against India;

(b) whether any protest has been lodged by Government in this regard; and

(c) if so, the response of the BBC to India's protest ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) The programme presented an interview it had recorded earlier with the Prime Minister in a disjointed, selective and hostile manner. It was a deliberately biased portrayal of India's achievements and policies. Its tone and thrust was highly objectionable.

(b) Yes, Sir.