

these private manufacturers from this sphere? They are exploiting the workers also. In Karnataka State very low wages are being paid to beedi workers when compared to Kerala. The Central Government has promised to take steps to unify the pay structure for beedi workers all over the south and in the southern States. So far nothing has come out. I am asking whether the Government is prepared to encourage the societies and remove the private sector from this industry.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: I have not said that there is a great deal of evasion. It is what the other Member said. I did not say that there is a great deal of evasion in this. I agree with the hon. Member that cooperatives should be encouraged. It is also the policy of this Government and we will certainly try to encourage wherever cooperatives come forward to engage themselves in activities of this kind, particularly beedi manufacture, colour manufacture and so on. We will give all encouragement. But I cannot go to the extent of saying that I will abolish all private trade in this industry.

Appointments in Central Excise and Customs Collectorate Delhi.

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*503. **SHRI JITENDRA PRASAD:**

SHRI BHEEKHABHAI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Excise and Customs Collectorate, Delhi, invited applications from meritorious national level sportsmen for appointment as Excise Inspectors and Senior Clerks; etc.;

(b) whether the appointments against these posts have been made on a war footing within a fortnight from 7th July, 1981 which was the last date for the receipt of applications after completing the formalities of test/Interview;

(c) If so, whether thousands of applications fulfilling the eligibility conditions were not at all called for written test/interview while making these appointments;

(d) whether responsibility for making these appointments has been fixed or proposed to be fixed and written test and interviews of all the eligible applicants contemplated by cancelling the previous appointments; and

(e) if not, the reason for not setting aside such appointments ignoring the interests of thousands of eligible applicants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA): (a) to (e). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) In June, 1981, the Delhi Collectorate of Central Excise, through advertisement in Press, invited applications for filling up, in accordance with the relevant orders, the vacancies in the quota for Sportsmen in different grades, the number of which was 12.

(b) No Sir, it took nearly three weeks to complete the selection.

(c) Only 552 applications were received. These were screened by a Committee composed of Senior Officers having regard, *inter alia*, to the requirement of the Collectorate for sportsmen in particular fields or games for which the Collectorate, intended, or was in a position, to build up the departmental teams, the standard of achievement in such games of the applicants as evidenced by the certificates produced by them, and the other prescribed qualifications of age etc.

Following the elimination through this screening, 78 applicants were invited for field trials in the conduct of which well-known sportsmen/coaches were associated. Only 59 applicants turned up for the trials. 22 applicants whose performance at these trials was

better than that of the others in the related games for which the Collectorate required to recruit the sportsmen, were called for written test and interview.

(d) and (e). Do not arise since, *ex facie*, there has been no irregularity in making this recruitment.

श्री जितेन्द्र प्रसाद : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आज दिन यह जानकारी होती है कि सरकारी दफ्तरों में स्पोर्ट्स कोटा के नाम पर गड़बड़ी की जा रही है। इस सेलेक्शन में भी मिनिमम क्वालिफिकेशन्स प्रेस्क्राइब कर दी गई थीं, पेपर्स में एडवर्टीजमेंट दे दिया गया था, 552 एप्लीकेशन्स आई थीं परन्तु स्क्रीनिंग के नाम पर केवल 78 कैंडिडेट्स को ही बुलाया गया। मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहूंगा कि स्क्रीनिंग का क्या क्राइटीरिया था और इसमें कौन सी ऐसी स्पेशल चीज थी जोकि एडवर्टीजमेंट में प्रेस्क्राइब्ड मिनिमम क्वालिफिकेशन में नहीं थी ?

SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA: You will please excuse me if I place before the House a brief background of this problem. The general instructions issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs in August 1980 permit recruitment of meritorious sportsmen against a specified number of vacancies of the direct recruitment quota. Not only this. But the general instructions of the Ministry of Home Affairs recognise about 20 games and sports for which meritorious sportsmen may be recruited under this scheme. And, therefore, for this Delhi Collectorate, some of its officers including a few of those taken in the last recruitment, have been selected for training camps for Asiad 1982. The recruitment for Delhi Collectorate was for getting sportsmen for three games and a few others like volley-ball, badminton, for which it is in the process of building up a team.

The other relevant data is like this:—

Total number of applications received is 552. After going through the applications number of called for trial screening is 78. Number of persons

who participated in trial screening was 59. Number of persons qualified for written test and interview was 22. Number of persons finally selected was 12.

SHRI JITENDRA PRASAD: I had asked for the criteria for screening. What were the special qualifications mentioned?

SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA: This is in connection with the requirement of a particular collectorate. In the games or sports they required a number of persons, and therefore, it may be that some persons might have applied they may be good sportsmen connected with a particular game, but they may not be there in a particular game.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA: Was it advertised?

SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA: It has already been mentioned.

SHRI JITENDRA PRASAD: My next question is that I have got proof that national level players have been left out in the selection and close relatives of the officers concerned have been favoured. Will the Minister look into the matter and if found correct, will the interview be held again?

SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA: I do not know the particular person was expert in what sort of games, but I will try to give the relevant information here. Persons selected were 12 in number Swimming 1, hockey 3, badminton 2, volley ball 2, athletics 3 and body-building 1. I do not know the particular gentleman was from which particular game. Therefore, if he gives some particular information, the matter will be examined.

SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL: Many of the departments do recruit persons on the basis of certain norms, but invariably some allegations of corruption etc. are there. Some allegations are being made regarding recruitments made by some inspection agencies under the commerce department. Therefore, is there a committee to screen the applicants and do the recruitment or is an

individual doing the recruitment? Secondly, when you advertise these posts, do you specify the minimum qualifications and allied criteria, so that the people at large will know these things? In the absence of these things, many allegations are coming up and we, Members of Parliament are approached by many people. Therefore, will the Minister consider having a screening committee consisting of experts and MPs—they are also experts—to prevent allegations of corrupt practices being made against the departments? Any appointment in any department should be through a proper screening committee. Will the Minister consider it?

SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA: The hon. member has put a very valid question. As far as selection is concerned, there is a committee consisting of senior officers and some experts also. As far as complaints regarding the selection in other departments are concerned, I do not have that information. But I will request the hon. member that this is a question on sports and he should take it in a sportsman spirit.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Gir-dhari Lal Vyas. He is a good sportsman!

श्री गिरधारी लाल व्यास : उपाध्यक्ष जी, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि ऐसे कौन से अधिकारी हैं, जिन्होंने अपने रिश्तेदारों को लेने के लिए ऐसे गेम्स को उसमें शामिल किया है, जिसमें उनके रिश्तेदार एक्सपर्ट थे और उसी हिसाब से उन्होंने एप्लीकेशन्स मंगाई हैं? क्या मंत्री महोदय इसकी जांच करके ऐसे अधिकारियों के खिलाफ कार्यवाही करेंगे, जिन्होंने इस प्रकार से गलत कार्यवाही की है?

श्री सवाई सिंह सिसोदिया : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, माननीय सदस्य का प्रश्न बहुत व्यापक है। उन्होंने पर्टिकुलर किस गेम के बारे में, किस सिलेक्शन के बारे में और किस अधिकारी के बारे में कोई जानकारी नहीं दी है, लेकिन मैं उनका विश्वास दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि इस बारे में भी पूरी सतर्कता रखी जाएगी कि कोई पक्षपात या गलत कार्यवाही न हो सके।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Jamilur Rahman—another sportsman!

SHRI JAMILUR RAHMAN: My friends Shri Jitendra Prasad and Shri Arakal have raised a very vital point with regard to the appointments in the central undertakings and central departments. I would like to ask whether the Government will be kind enough to appoint a central committee to appoint persons in various departments like Railways, Commerce, Finance, etc. under the quotas which are being advertised off and on by various departments?

SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA: No such proposal is under the consideration of the Government. Prime facie such a proposal does not seem to be practical, because there are different organisations with different requirements. It is not possible to have a central committee.

Hotel Kanishka and Ashok Yatri Niwas Lagging Behind Schedule

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*504. **SHRI K. LAKKAPPA:**

SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is true that the twin hotel projects, Kanishka, Ashok and Ashok Yatri Niwas of ITDC, are lagging behind schedule by 19 months;

(b) if so, concrete reasons therefor;

(c) whether this delay is likely to cause cost escalation to the tune of crores of rupees and if so, estimate thereof;

(d) what would be the quantum of losses otherwise;

(e) whether it is proposed to institute an inquiry and fix responsibility; and

(f) other action proposed in the matter?