

Therefore, I would submit that we have based our figures on the conclusions of a much more reliable data collected by the Labour Bureau.

SHRI G. VISWANATHAN: The second part of my question has not been answered.

SHRI PILOO MODY: The second part is what steps are being taken to bring down the prices? The answer will be, we are trying to collect still more accurate data?

SHRI D. P. DHAR: I was not aware of a more accurate source of information on this question, which I have discovered today in the person of Mr. Piloo Mody. I shall certainly consult that source. If I may submit with all respect, the question does not relate to individual items. The question was asked in terms of the percentages of the rise in prices of consumer goods. I am sorry I do not have information in relation to individual items available at the present moment.

SHRI G. VISWANATHAN: Are you satisfied with the reply, Sir?

MR. SPEAKER: To get personal satisfaction is not my job. I am sitting here just to proceed to the next item?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: In view of the fact that after independence, our country accepted a planned economy and now we find that plan after plan the prices of consumer goods have been increasing, would the Planning Minister be pleased to tell us if in any planned economy anywhere in the world, prices of consumer goods are allowed to run away and go beyond the reach of the common man?

SHRI D. P. DHAR: In a developing economy, a certain reasonable price rise is inevitable. These price rises take place even in countries where planning is much more rigid and much

more rigorous. The difficulty arises when because of certain circumstances the level of prices rises beyond the level anticipated in the Plan. As a matter of fact, in each plan the planners have anticipated a certain rise in the level of prices, but when the prices go beyond that level it becomes a matter of serious concern to us.

AN HON. MEMBER: A very evasive answer.

SHRI G. VISWANATHAN: It would have satisfied Shri Sathe.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no question of evasion. I think this is the only answer.

श्री सरजू पांडे : अभी योजना उपमंत्रि ने बताया है कि कन्ज्यूमर्स गुड्स की प्राइसेज़ न बढ़े इसलिए लखरी गुड्स के उत्पादन पर प्रतिबन्ध लगाया जाय तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि कौन से ऐसे लखरी सामान हिन्दुस्तान में हैं जो पहले पैदा हो रहे थे और इधर कई लोगों में आप ने उन पर प्रतिबन्ध लगाया है ? वह कौन सी ऐसी चीज़ें हैं ?

SHRI D. P. DHAR: I would submit that it would be better to state the proposition in a different way if I may, with your permission, do so. The intention in the Fifth Plan is to curb consumption of luxury or eliteous goods and to increase the production, and therefore consequently the consumption, of the goods of mass consumption. That is the objective which the Fifth Plan has before itself.

Ratio among Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other minorities Communities in Services

*50. **SHRI S. M. BANERJEE:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what further steps have been taken to maintain the ratio of the

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and other minority communities in the various Services; and

(b) whether any revised Order has been issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No LT-5687/73].

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: The statement gives all the percentages. In the case of direct recruitment, it is 15 per cent of Scheduled Castes and 7 1/2 per cent for Scheduled Tribes. For direct recruitment on an all India basis the corresponding figures are 16 2/3 and 7 1/2. I would like to know whether it is a fact that even after the issue of these orders the particular percentage which has to be maintained has not been maintained in any of the departments for Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes, as far as class 1 and 2 posts are concerned and, if so, what steps have been taken by the Government to see that the prescribed percentage is filled by these people in class 1 and 2.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: These reservations are for fresh recruitments and I can say with confidence that these reservations are being availed, except in case of some technical posts; in all posts in class 1 and 2. Just to give one example....

SHRI PILOO MODY: UP Ministry.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA:.... in the competitive examinations conducted by the UPSC for IAS, IPS and other allied services, which is among the top-most services in our country, since 1964 the reservations are being fulfilled to the full percentage, which means all posts reserved

for Scheduled Castes and Tribes in these higher services are being properly filled by proper candidates, except in 1971 when there was some shortfall so far as Scheduled Tribes are concerned. But, broadly speaking, in all these services the quota has been properly filled and there is no lapse or de-reservation and this is the result of the various steps that the Government have taken to increase their intake. One of the steps we have taken is that we have established a number of residential and non-residential coaching institutions where part-time and full-time classes are held. Some of them are conducted by the Universities and some by the State Governments. As a result of these efforts these reservations are being fully fulfilled.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: In the statement laid on the Table of the House it is said:

'However, there is no provision in the Constitution permitting such reservation being made in favour of any minority community as such.'

Last time we had a discussion on the percentage of Muslim minority in Railways and an assurance was given by Shri L. N. Mishra that a proper percentage would be maintained though not strictly within the terms of reservation. I would like to know, after that discussion in which practically every Member spoke in favour of maintaining a particular percentage for the Muslim minority, what steps have been taken to ensure that the Muslims are also given chance in recruitment to Class III, Class II and Class I posts. (Interruption) There is no question of Chief Minister. I can tell you that the Muslim community were not satisfied even when *Sadar-e-Jamhuriya* was a Muslim. I want to know what orders have been issued in Defence and other Ministries to see that they are also recruited to Class III, Class II and Class I posts.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: As I have stated in my answer it is the Constitutional position which the hon. Member will also accept. Under the Constitution we can make specific reservation only for backward classes. As regards increasing the number of persons belonging to minority communities in government services, Government has been taking various steps since a long time....

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: In the Railway Board only Mr. Qureshi is a Muslim and there are no other Muslims.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: As I was saying, as far as the Constitutional position is concerned, there can not be specific reservation, but it is a policy of the Government to see that no prejudice prevails against any minority in recruitment to services. It was in 1968, in the Chief Ministers' Conference and in other forums, this was discussed. We have taken the State Governments into confidence. The Ministries of the Government of India are alive to this. We are very conscious of the fact that we should create a situation where no sort of prejudice comes in the field as is sometimes suspected or even alleged by hon. members and that the minorities are given full chance to participate in the examinations, in the various competitions, and get their proper representation in the services. This is the approach that the Government has been taking all these years.

SHRI P. R. SHENOY: I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether reservations are made in nationalised banks, LIC and other public sector institutions.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: Our policy is that similar reservations as are available in government services should also be made available

in the nationalised banks and the public sector undertakings. We have taken up this matter with the Ministry of Finance and the Bureau of Public Enterprises who are actually involved in this. We have requested them to issue directives to the various undertakings, and these directives have been issued. We are pursuing the matter with them. And there has been a perceptible improvement in the situation.

SHRI PARIPOORNANAND PAINULI: The present order of giving employment to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes is on the basis of piece-meal vacancies created one by one. May I know from the hon. Minister whether this practice will be changed and steps taken to fill the vacancies by giving employment to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe candidates till their ratio in employment is achieved?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: There is no question of piece-meal vacancies being recruited. The policy is, and I think most of the Departments are complying with this, is that when a certain number of vacancies are available, they go for direct recruitment and the proper percentage for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes is maintained and the recruitment is done... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI PARIPOORNANAND PAINULI: My point is: suppose there are 100 vacancies in one Department, unless: and until the ratio of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes is fully achieved, why should they recruit other people?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: I dispute the presumption on which the hon. Member's question is based. The situation is not as the hon. Member says. Piecemeal recruitment is not resorted to. Full recruitment is made and full reservation is being achieved. If the hon. Member can-

give some instance where it is not being achieved, I will take it up personally.

SHRI S. A. SHAMIM: The Minister has invoked Art. 16 of the Constitution in maintaining that equal opportunity for jobs is provided and guaranteed. At the same time, the Government from the Prime Minister down to Shri Mohd Shafi Qureshi have asserted that the Muslims are not properly represented in various services in the Government. This means clear violation of the constitutional guarantee that we are providing equal opportunity. What steps is the Government taking to remedy this deficiency? Are any such arrangements or institutions as are provided in the case of Harijans, like coaching them for IAS and other competitive examinations, being made in regard to Muslims also?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: The question of providing equality of opportunity does not arise because constitution gives this right to everyone. (Interruptions) People are taking the examinations and getting into the administration. As regards involving them more and more in the competitive examinations and other things, the various State Governments, Departments, the Universities have various schemes of counselling the students and coaching them for these examinations and I am sure the minorities are taking advantage of these schemes and getting benefited by them.

SHRI S. A. SHAMIM: Not a single scheme has been implemented. Nowhere, not even one State has implemented it.

SHRI K. NARAYANA RAO: The hon. Minister has enunciated the policy regarding recruitment. May I know from the hon. Minister as to what is the policy of the Government in the matter of reservations with regard to promotions?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: I will refer the hon. Member to the detailed answers that I have given in which I have spelt out the various types of reservations available in the various classes of posts so far as promotion is concerned. It is a very detailed statement.

श्री हुकमचन्द कछवाय : मैं प्रधान मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ—बहुत से प्राइवेट उद्योग और प्राइवेट फर्म हैं, उनमें भी यह नियम लागू हो, क्या कोई कानून आप बनाने जा रहे हैं? गृह मंत्रालय ने 1968 में एक पत्र जारी किया था जो राज्य सरकारों, विभिन्न सरकारी उद्योगों को भेजा गया था, जिस में कहा गया था कि उन नियमों का ठीक प्रकार से पालन नहीं किया जा रहा है। क्या आप इस के बारे में ठीक प्रकार से जांच करवायेंगे?

श्री रामनिवास मिर्धा : सरकारी संस्थानों की क्या स्थिति है, उस के बारे में तो मैंने निवेदन कर दिया है। जहाँ तक प्राइवेट संस्थानों का प्रश्न है सरकार कानूनी तौर से अभी कुछ नहीं करना चाहती, परन्तु हमने उन संस्थानों से भी सम्पर्क स्थापित किया है और उन को समय समय पर कहते रहने हैं कि वह भी सरकार की इस राष्ट्रीय नाति में सहयोग दें। हम फिर से उन से कहेंगे—रिजर्वेशन न भी हो, लेकिन पिछड़े वर्ग के लोगों को अपने संस्थानों में प्राथमिकता अवश्य दें।

MR. SPEAKER: On this particular subject, we had a comprehensive discussion last time. But, in spite of that, I have given you enough opportunity. I cannot accommodate all. I am sorry the time is now over