

ernment think in terms of the five-year plan, to step in, in order to accelerate the production? I am not here referring to the sick closed textile mills. I am talking about the essential articles of mass consumption.

**SHRI MOHAN DHARIA:** If the Government comes to the conclusion that to meet the shortage of these mass-consumption articles it is necessary that public sector should step in, the public sector will step in. Let me clarify one point because he made a reference to fertiliser, oil etc. If agricultural production is to be attended to without meeting these basic requirements it will not be possible to meet the shortages.

**Enhancement of Age Limit and increase in number of chances for Assistants' Grade Examination of U.P.S.C.**

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\*131. **SHRI R. P. YADAV:**

**SHRI K. MALLANNA:**

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

(a) whether the age-limit for appearing in the Assistants' Grade Examination, conducted by Union Public Service Commission, had been increased upto 26 years;

(b) if so, since when; and

(c) whether Government also propose to increase the number of chances from two to three?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA):** (a) and (b). The upper age limit for appearing in the Assistants' Grade Examination conducted by the Union Public Service Commission has been increased to 25 years, from the Examination due to be held in 1973.

(c) There is no proposal at present to increase the number of chances from two to three in respect of the Assistants' Grade Examination.

**SHRI R. P. YADAV:** I congratulate the Government for increasing the age limit to 25 years though it should have been increased to 26 keeping in view the age limit for IAS examinations. Since the age limit for Assistants' grade examination has been increased upto 25 years, will it not be advisable to increase the number of chances from 2 to 3? Is Government going to consider this in the near future? If so, when? If not, why not?

**SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA:** The Administrative Reforms Commission has made a recommendation that the chances which a candidate can have for technical as well as non-technical services, both inclusive, should be restricted to two. The recommendation has not been accepted by Government so far as technical services are concerned. The question in respect of higher non-technical services is still under consideration. Depending upon the final decision of Government on this recommendation in respect of higher services the position in respect of lower services will have to be reviewed. There is no proposal under consideration at present to increase number of chances for appearing in the Assistants' grade examination but it will be considered after the decision on ARC's recommendation is taken.

**श्री रामबाबुतार शास्त्री :** क्या यह सच है कि दो के बजाय तीन चांस देने के सिलसिले में कुछ संसद् सदस्यों ने आपके पास पत्र भेजे हैं, यदि हां, तो उन्होंने उन पत्रों में क्या दलीलें दी हैं इसके पक्ष में और क्या उन दलीलों पर आपने विचार किया है और किया है, तो आप किस निष्कर्ष पर पहुंचे हैं ?

श्री राजनिवास शिर्षा : यह सही है कि कुछ माननीय सदस्यों ने इस सम्बन्ध में पत्र लिखे हैं। उन पत्रों में जो दलीलें दी गई हैं उन पर गम्भीरता से विचार किया जायेगा।

**SHRI PILOO MODY:** Government were good enough to increase the age limit to 25 as recently as in May, but there are several departments of the Government which are still not seized of this particular information. For instance, the Income-tax Commissioner of Ahmedabad is supremely innocent that Government have passed such a regulation. May I know whether Government would make sure that all their departments are informed in time?

**SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA:** Yes, we shall do so.

**M.R. SPEAKER:** Next question. Shri Somnath Chatterjee. The hon. Member is absent.

Next question. Shri P. M. Mehta. The hon. Member is absent. Next question. Shri Hari Singh. He is also absent. Then, Shri S. A. Muruganatham. He is also absent.

वे जो प्रश्न करने हैं इनको हाजिर रहना भी चाहिए। जो प्रश्न करते हैं, उन पर गवर्नमेंट का खर्च होता है, सब कुछ होता है।

**डा० योनिव्य दास रिद्धाशिया :** किसी मेम्बर का प्रश्न एजेंडे पर आ गया उस प्रश्न को करने का अगले व्यक्ति को अधिकार मिलना चाहिए। जिस प्रश्न को लाटरी में स्थान मिल गया अगर उसका यहाँ उत्तर नहीं दिया जाता है तो इसका अर्थ यह है कि किसी और का अधिकार छिन गया। अगर कोई माननीय सदस्य अस्वस्थ हो गया या किसी कारणवश आ नहीं सका और वह प्रश्न एजेंडे में आ गया तो हाउस का यह जो अधिकार है इस अधिकार को छीना नहीं जाना चाहिए।

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** मेम्बर नहीं आता है तो वह छिन लेता है।

Then, Q. No. 136. Shri D. K. Panda. He is absent. Then, Dr. H.P. Sharma. He is also absent.

**डा० योनिव्य दास रिद्धाशिया :** अगर सवाल एजेंडे पर आ जाये और हाउस चाहे तो आप उस सवाल को ले लें।

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** यह नहीं हो सकता है। रूलबूक इसके बारे में बड़े क्लीयर हैं।

### Strengthening of Planning Machinery at State Level

137. **SHRI SARJOO PANDEY:** Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has decided to strengthen the planning machinery at the State level;

(b) if so, the suggestions made by the Commission in this respect; and

(c) the assistance being provided to the States for the purpose?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The Centre would reimburse upto two-thirds of the additional expenditure to be incurred by the States on the strengthening of the planning machinery at the State level.

### STATEMENT

The Planning Commission has made the following suggestions for strengthening the planning apparatus at the State level:

(a) There should be an apex body at the State level with the Chief Minister, the Finance Minister, the Planning Minister and technical experts representing various departments and disciplines.