

ed number of vacancies on the basis of the 1976 Examination so as to avoid *ad-hoc* promotions.

As the increase of the number of vacancies had been intimated by the Ministry well before the declaration of the final results of the examination on 6th August 1977, the UPSC noted the requirements of the Ministry and recommended candidates for all the 9 vacancies finally reported by the Ministry.

Banning of Communal and Anti-National Organisations

*415. SHRI HITENDRA DESAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the policy of Government regarding banning communal or anti-national organisations; and

(b) is Government considering to ban Anand Marg?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHARAN SINGH): (a) The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 lays down the circumstances under which any association can be banned.

(b) No such decision has been taken by Government.

Political prisoners in Jails

*416. SHRI MUKUNDA MONDAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) the number of all categories of political prisoners still in jails, State-wise; and

(b) how many of them are MISA detenus, DISIR detenus, under-trial prisoners, and convicted political prisoners?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHARAN SINGH): (a) the term 'political prisoner' is not defined under law and, therefore, it is not possible to collect precise information in this regard.

(b) Government have taken steps to ensure that all prisoners either under preventive detention or prosecuted/convicted for acts directly related to their political beliefs or political activities should be immediately released. According to information available with Government, the total number of MISA detenus, including political prisoners, was 399 as on December 3, 1977. They include 385 foreigners, 11 hardened criminals and anti-social elements in Maharashtra, two insurgents in the North-Eastern region and 1 Naxalite in Tamil Nadu. In regard to DISIR also, Government have issued instructions to State Governments to withdraw pending cases against under-trial prisoners and to remit the unserved portion of the sentences except in the cases of economic offenders and those who have indulged in acts of violence. Government have not received any complaint that any such person is still in prison. As regards offences under other laws, Government would take up the matter with the concerned State Governments if any specific cases of prosecutions on account of political activities are brought to its notice.

Inclusion of Konkani Languages in eighth Schedule of Constitution

*417. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a strong demand that Konkani, the mother tongue of the majority of the people in the Konkani area, be included in the 8th Schedule of the Constitution;

(b) whether Government have received specific proposals to this effect;