

the Jail. The continued detention of Shri Vijay Kumar alongwith his father was necessitated on account of their refusal to be released on bail.

The East Punjab Children Act, 1949 and not the Children Act, 1960, is in force in Chandigarh. In accordance with the provisions of this Act and the rules framed thereunder, a child below the age of 16 years and not released on bail is to be detained a certified school or a place of safety. If no such school or place of safety is available, the child may be detained at a police station away from adult prisoners. Shri Vijay Kumar was kept in custody away from the hardened and criminal prisoners. He remained under the charge of his father in the jail. In view of this, there has been no contravention of the provisions of the Law on the subject.

Regularisation services of casual employees of GREF Unit, Pathankot

5335. SHRI DAYA RAM SHAKYA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state what is the programme of the Government to regularise the services of casual employees serving in the following GREF units at Pathankot for the last so many years in whose service one day absence is marked simply to show break in service but are working continuously;

(i) Western Base Workshop (GREF)

(ii) Western Store Division (GREF)

(iii) Detachment of 52 RCC (GREF)

(iv) 1326 Base Depot (GREF)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: No proposal in this regard has been formulated. The constraints relating to the regularisation of casual personnel employed in the Border Roads Organi-

sation are explained in the Answers to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Questions Nos. 3186 and 3187, both dated 11th March 1981. It is not feasible to consider in isolation the case of casual employees in the GREF units mentioned in the Question.

Retirement age of Government Officers

5336. SHRI ARJUN SETHI:
SHRI SKARIAH
THOMAS:
SHRI MANOHAR LAL
SAINI:
SHRI K. LAKKAPPA:
SHRI DHARAM DASS
SHASTRI:
SHRI SATISH PRASAD
SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the age of retirement of all the Government officers is 58 years without any discrimination;

(b) if so, whether some officers are given relaxation upto the age of 60 years; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and why the same age should not be made applicable in respect of all the Government employees from Class-IV to Class-I officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBAIAH): (a) Normally, every Central Government official is retired on the afternoon of the last day of the month in which he attains the age of 58 years. However, the following categories of employees are retired on the afternoon of the last day of the month in which they attain the age of 60 years:—

(i) the workmen i.e. a highly skilled, skilled, semi-skilled or unskilled artisan employed on a mon-

thly rate of pay in an Industrial work-charged Establishment.

(ii) the ministerial Government Servant who entered government service on or before the 31st March, 1938 and held on the day (a) a lien or a suspended lien on a permanent post or (b) a permanent post in a provisional substantive capacity and continued to hold the same without interruption until he was confirmed in that post; and

(iii) a Government servant in Class-IV (Group-D) service or post except Class-IV employees of Secretariat Security Force who initially entered government service on or after the 15th September 1969.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In exceptional circumstances, the officials may be granted extension of service after they attain the age of 58 years with the sanction of the appropriate authority if such extension is in the public interest and the grounds therefor are recorded in writing. Further, the age of retirement of workmen and Class-IV (Group-D) employees has been kept at 60 years because their job does not require much of mental or physical strain. Ministerial Government servants who entered Government service on or before 31-3-38, are retired at the age of 60 years because at the time of their appointment, the retirement age was 60 years. As such it is not considered possible to prescribe the same age of retirement in respect of all the categories of Government officers.

Proposal to set up National Advisory Board on Statistics

5337. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state at what stage is the proposal to set up a National Advisory Board on Statistics to provide technical guidance in policy issues involving the development of statistics?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): The Report of the Group constituted specifically to suggest the composition and detailed working procedure of National Advisory Board on Statistics is awaited. Action to constitute the Board will be taken after receipt of the Report.

News Item "Defence Shocker"

5338. SHRI BAL KRISHNA WASNIK: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has seen a press report in Blitz dated 21 November, 1981 under the heading 'Defence Shocker'; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The information contained in the report is not adequate to consider any action in the matter.

Offer of Soviet Union for Know-how for production of special Schocolates for diabetic patients

5339. SHRI R. N. RAKESH:
SHRI D. M. PUTTE
GOWDA:

SHRI K. MALLANNA:
SHRI KRISHNA PRATAP
SINGH:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has received the offer of the Soviet Union regarding the know-how for the production of special chocolates for diabetic patients;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and