

Head of Department of African Studies, Delhi University

3328. Shri Umanath:
Shri Nambiar:
Shri K. Ramani:
Shri P. Gopalan:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the writings and concepts of the present Head of Department of African Studies in the University of Delhi, ever since his appointment, have been consistently and repeatedly criticised by ationalist Africans in their journals, seminars and various other forums, as being pro-colonialist and anti-African;

(b) if so, the main point of these criticisms and their authors;

(c) whether Government had reviewed the writing and conduct of the Head of the Department in the light of these criticisms, at any stage, after his appointment; and

(d) if so, the result of such a review?

The Minister of Education (Dr. Triguna Sen): (a) Government are not aware of any such criticism.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Freemasonic Lodges

3329. Shri K. Ramani:
Shri Umanath:
Shri P. Gopalan:
Shri Nambiar:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the network of Freemasonic Lodges in India and their activities;

(b) whether Government have at any stage probed into the secret activities of these lodges;

(c) whether it is a fact that a number of highly placed Government officials have joined this society and bound themselves by its oath of secrecy;

(d) if so, whether these officials have taken permission from the Government before joining this society;

(e) whether Government have at any stage reviewed the likely impact on these officers of the membership of this society on their loyalty to the State and the Nation; and

(f) if so, the results of the review?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Vidya Charan Shukla): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Government have no information

(d) Rules do not require such prior permission.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Retirements

3330. Shri S. R. Damani: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the average annual rate of staff retiring from Government service in the following categories of:

(i) I.A.S. Officers

(ii) Officers of other All-India Services.

(iii) Central Secretariat Service Officers.

(iv) Section Officers, Assistants and Clerks in the Central Secretariat.

(v) Class IV; and

(b) the average amount of Provident Funds, gratuity and other benefits converted into cash, if any, payable annually on account of such retirement?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Vidya Charan Shukla): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House, as soon as possible.