

The Commission is not competent to advance loans to Universities under its Act of incorporation.

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

Ban on Creation of Posts

292. Shri Chuni Lal: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a ban on the creation of posts;

(b) if so, when it was imposed;

(c) the number of posts of Secretaries, Special Secretaries and Additional Secretaries created since the ban was imposed; and

(d) the reasons for creating the posts when there was a ban?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri L. N. Mishra): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 13th June, 1963.

(c) Secretaries—7 (one post in lieu of Additional Secretary).

Special Secretary—1 (discontinued since 19-5-1964).

Additional Secretaries—11 (4 posts in lieu of Joint Secretaries; one post held in abeyance).

(d) Broadly the reasons were:

(i) Creation of new Ministries/Departments;

(ii) Re-organisation of existing Ministries/Departments;

(iii) Expansion of activities in existing Ministries/Departments and consequent increase in work.

Cricket

293. Shri Yashpal Singh: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is losing in the International cricket field;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to improve the position?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Education (Shri Bhakti Darshan): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Scientific Research

294. { Shri D. D. Puri:
Shri Sham Lal Saraf:
Shri P. K. Deo:
Shri Kapur Singh:
Shri P. K. Ghosh:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered and accepted the suggestion that at least one percent of national income be spent on scientific research; and

(b) the concrete steps being taken for a rapid expansion of research facilities?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) The question of the quantum of funds to be allocated for scientific research during the Fourth Five Year Plan is receiving consideration.

(b) The Scientific Advisory Committee to the Cabinet made the following recommendations for accelerating the tempo of scientific research in the country:—

(i) The number of men engaged in scientific research and development should be increased and their quality improved;

(ii) Materials, instruments and tools, particularly those required for developing new materials, tools and weapons for defence, should be freely provided;

(iii) The study of the country's environmental and natural resources, with a view to their better utilisation, should be