

Tribes need not face the U.P.S.C. interview while being considered for higher posts in the parent department or cadre if they fulfil all the minimum qualifications;

(b) whether it is also a fact that while recognising the due claims of the members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the higher posts and services in the parent department or cadre the purview of the consultation of the U.P.S.C. is ousted; and

(c) if so, how the interests of these communities are safeguarded?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri L. N. Mishra): (a) and (b). It is not a fact that recruitment and promotion of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe employees to higher posts in the parent department or cadre is not within the purview of the U.P.S.C. by virtue of Article 320(4) of the Constitution. The Commission is to be consulted in regard to individual cases of members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes where consultation is necessary under general rules.

(c) Does not arise.

S.C. and S.T. Employees

1483. { Shri Dinen Bhattacharya:
 { Shri S. M. Banerjee:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are special provisions governing the fixation of seniority and confirmation in that parent department or cadre of the gazetted officers belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes when selection is done with the consultation of the U.P.S.C.; and

(b) if so, the details of the rules?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri L. N.

Mishra): (a) and (b). There are no special rules to determine the seniority of gazetted officers belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, when selection is made in consultation with the Union Public Service Commission. The general rule of seniority which governs direct recruits, including candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, is that the seniority shall be determined by the order of merit in which they are selected for such appointment on the recommendations of the Union Public Service Commission or other selecting authority, persons appointed as a result of an earlier selection being senior to those appointed as a result of a subsequent selection, provided that where persons recruited initially on a temporary basis are confirmed subsequently in an order different from the order of merit indicated at the time of their appointment, seniority shall follow the order of confirmation and not the original order of merit. Accordingly when vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes according to the special representation roster, details of which are given in the note placed in the Library (See No. LT-4049/65), are filled by Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe candidates initially appointed on a temporary basis, they are eligible for confirmation in their turn against such reserved vacancies; on confirmation they become senior to all others who may be confirmed from a subsequent date even though the others may have been appointed earlier.

Land Reforms in Mahe

1484. { Shri Pottakkatt:
 { Shri A. V. Raghavan:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) what progress has been made to carry out land reforms in Mahe