

Administration and the Minister as is the practice in other employing Ministries of the Government of India, like Railways, Defence, Posts and Telegraphs Department and Civil Aviation; and

(b) if not, the reasons for not adopting a similar system in the Secretariat also?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs and Minister of Defence Supplies in the Ministry of Defence (Shri Hathi): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Whenever there are any points of substance to be raised. The Service Associations or Unions can ask for a personal discussion and the request for such discussion always receives due consideration. Questions affecting service conditions are invariably raised and discussed in the Staff Councils of various Ministries which hold regular periodical meetings. In view of these facts, it is not considered necessary to hold regular periodical meetings with the Service Associations or Unions.

Seniority of L.D.C.'s vis a vis U.D.C.'s

**1240. Shri Daji:
Shri Warrier:**

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that in the offices participating in the Central Secretariat Service Scheme, Lower Division Clerks have become senior to Upper Division Clerks; and

(b) if so, whether it conforms to the principles of equity and fairplay and whether it is in the interest of efficiency in the Secretariat?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri L. N. Mishra): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5228/65].

Promotion of the Lower Division Clerks

**1241. Shri Daji:
Shri Warrier:**

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the findings of the Second Pay Commission, the promotional avenues of the Lower Division Clerks in the Central Secretariat Offices are less than their counterparts in other Departments; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to increase the promotional avenues for them, especially in view of the fact that they are recruited on the basis of an All-India Competitive Examination, which makes selection in their case very stiff and enables Government to attract to the Secretariat Clerical Service the best available talent in the country?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri L. N. Mishra): (a) No. Sir. Taking all factors into consideration, the Pay Commission had remarked that there does not seem to be any significant difference in the total promotion prospects available to a Lower Division Clerk in the Secretariat and his counterpart in the other offices.

(b) Does not arise.

Kerala Cultivators

**1242. Shri Vasudevan Nair:
Shri Warrier:**

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the sufferings of the cultivators resettled at Manja Mara in Kerala State; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to help them resettle without difficulty?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs and Minister of Defence Supplies in the Ministry of Defence (Shri Hathi): (a) Government have received representation?