

[English]

Concept of Governance by Consensus

6049. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government have been drawn to the News-item captioned "Home Secretary's missive creates a flutter" appearing in 'The Hindustan Times' dated May 24, 1998;

(b) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

A demi-official letter from the Union Home Secretary addressed to all Secretaries in the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India and Chief Secretaries of the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations was sent on the 12th May, 1998 inviting their attention to Item 35 of the National Agenda for Governance relating to 'A New Norm for Governance by Consensus' and making certain suggestions in this regard. The insinuation in the news report in regard to the intent of the letter is unfounded and incorrect.

[Translation]

Corrupt Practices for Posting in Police Stations

6050. SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jahanabad) : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether corrupt practices are adopted in Delhi Police while making postings in Police Stations and various districts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether higher Police officials are involved in such activities;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Union Government propose to conduct an inquiry in this regard; and

(f) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

[English]

Family Pension

6051. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Standing Labour Committee has recommended enhancement of rate of interest on the corpus of family pension accumulated corpus;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government on these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Standing Labour Committee (SLC) of the Indian Labour Conference had recommended that the Pension Fund and the Employees Deposit-Linked Insurance Fund deposited in the Public Account should receive interest of not less than 12.5 percent as compared to the present return of 8.5 percent. The matter has been considered in consultation with the Ministry of Finance. However, it has not been found possible to accept the proposal.

[Translation]

Teaching the Official Language

6052. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the measure taken by the Union Government for teaching the official language in non-Hindi speaking States; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government for the advancement/development of the scheduled language?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) The Official Language Department of the Ministry of Home Affairs is running a Hindi Teaching Scheme to teach Hindi to the employees of Central Govt. Under this scheme, this department is conducting training in several places in non-Hindi speaking States. Hindi teaching work is going on in 5 sub-institutions in Mumbai, Calcutta, Bangalore, Chennai and Hyderabad. Similarly, Hindi typing and shorthand training is also being imparted. For this Correspondence Courses are also conducted.

The Official Language Department has also prepared a scheme to provide grant-in-aid to the

voluntary Organisations to impart training in Hindi to the non-Hindi speaking employees of the Central Govt. Apart from this, there is a scheme to grant financial assistance to the non-Hindi speaking states for making arrangements for imparting training in Hindi to their employees.

(b) Govt. has established a Central Institute for the development of Scheduled languages in 1969. Various activities for the propagation and development of scheduled regional languages are being carried out under its aegis. Particularly, preparation of text and instructional material for strengthening the place of regional languages as a medium of education, provision of financial assistance to voluntary organisations and State agencies in the field of regional languages, grant of book writing awards to encourage writing in regional languages; provision of facilities through modern gadgets in the field of learning and teachings etc.

Spice Industry Run by the Prisoners

6053. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the spice industry is being run by the prisoners of the Central Jail, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh and are getting employment in the Central Jail and the State are getting the spices at concessional rates;

(b) the details of irregularities being done in this industry;

(c) whether few days back the rotten chapattis and rice were grinded and mixed with spices in the Central Jail to meet the increased demand for spices a few days back; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps being taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) to (d) Prisons' being a State subject as per Entry 4 State List II of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, Prison administration is therefore, governed, by the State Governments as per the various provisions contained in their Jail Manuals. Various prison Industries are being run in the prisons under the supervision of jail authorities of the State Governments. These industries not only provide employment to the prisoners but also make available various kinds of items produced in these industries at concessional

rates to the States. The Central Government does not maintain any data pertaining to irregularities in running of such industries.

Distributorship

6054. SHRI PUNNULAL MOHALE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is mentioned in the advertisement for the dealership/distributorship that only that person can apply for it whose no near relative is having the dealership/distributorship of any oil company;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to abolish this condition;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The multiple dealerships norms have been provided in public interest to prevent concentration of more than one dealership/distributorship of petroleum products in one family and to provide competitive services to the customer.

[English]

Issue of Passport/visa

6055. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the public is being cheated while issuing passport and visa;

(b) if so, the number of cases detected during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government are considering to formulate any action plan to check such cases; and

(d) if so, the time by which the said plan is likely to be formulated?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K ADVANI) : (a) to (d) Instances of cheating of public by unauthorised agents while obtaining passports and visas have come to notice.

Available information in regard to cases of forgeries in passports/visas detected at major air