[English]

Stagnation Among Stenographers

7465. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Stenographers Grade-III (Pay scale Rs. 1200-2040) appointed during the years 1969 to 1973 in the Income Tax Department, remaining in the same grade as on date;

(b) whether a committee was set up by the Central Board of Direct Taxes for removing stagnation in various cadres including Stenographers;

(c) whether the Committee has submitted its recommendations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF THE FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) The number of Stenographers Grade-III (Pay scale Rs. 1200-2040) appointed during the years 1969 to 1973 in the Income Tax Department, remaining in the same grade as on date is 1237. This does not include information regarding region of Chief Commissioner of Income Tax (Administration), Patiala and the charge of Commissioner of Income Tax, Shillong.

(b) The Directorate of Organisation and Management Services (Income Tax) has conducted a study regarding the stagnation in various cadres including Stenographers, in the Income Tax Department. This report is being considered by the Standing Cadre Review Committee headed by the Director General of Income Tax (Administration) for suggesting ways and means for removing stagnation in various cadres including those of Stenographers. (c) and (d). Recommendations of the Standing Cadre Review Committee are still awaited.

Special Hill Allowance to Central Government Employees Posted in Himachal Pradesh

7466. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government employees posted in Himachal Pradesh have been making any demand for increasing special Hill Allowances and providing them more facilities such as for the education of their children, housing facilities etc; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF THE FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b). Certain representations have been received in this Ministry for payment of Hill Compensatory Allowance to Central Government employees at places in Himachal Pradesh, where the State Government has granted Compensatory allowance in respect of their employees. The proposal is under consideration in consultation with the Government of Himachal Pradesh.

No representation has been received in regard to education facilities. Infermation in regard to recipt of representations, if any received, for more housing facilities in Himachal Pradesh is being collected.

Export of Bidi

7467. SHRIR. JEEVARATHINAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the foreign exchange earned from the export of 'bidi' and tobacco respectively during the last three years; and