

schools all over the country under discretionary quota. In Bihar alone, more than 3000 children were granted admission under this quota. It is alleged that a large sum of money amounting to Rs. 3-4 crores was made out of it. In this regard I had written to the Government also. Today Education Department has become 'mini Bofors'. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether high level probe will be ordered in it and action will be taken against the responsible persons?

[English]

PROF. M.G.K. MENON: The hon. Member is correct about the number of transfers of 181 teachers which were ordered under the specific directions of the then Chairman of the Kendriya Vidya Sangathan. With regard to the question of what else was involved in it, I cannot give any reply as it stands. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I have not called you, please sit down.
(Interruptions)

[English]

PROF. M.G.K. MENON: I can only point out to the House that the only way in which one can ensure that none of these anomalies take place which can lead to suspicion, which can indeed lead to a sort of situation the hon. Member has talked about, is to have explicitly guidelines for this purpose, whether they are for admissions or whether they are for transfers and to have guidelines which are followed strictly without any departures and that is what I intend to follow. With regard to past events, I can certainly assure the House that I will have these looked into. (Interruptions)

Scrutiny of Administrative Files

*452. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to institute scrutiny of administrative/establishment files in the Government offices to check if the decisions are taken as per the existing rules and regulations/Government instructions/orders and there is no violation of these and no Government servant has been victimised or favoured by the administrative authorities;

(b) if so, the details of steps being taken in this regard;

(c) whether such a scrutiny will help bring out cases of corruption/favouritism/nepotism in administration; and

(d) the fields in which such scrutiny has been or is being instituted?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) No, Sir.

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

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my question was that so many irregularities are committed in Government offices, rules are violated and transfers and appointments are made on the basis of political and administrative pulls and pressures. Illegal gratification is taken. Some employees are harassed whereas some are favoured and benefited. With whom such complaints should be made? Hundreds of such complaints are received by each and every M.P. who forwards them to the Minister concerned for taking necessary action on them. But no action is taken by the Ministers. My question was, can't the Government set up an agency or consider to constitute an agency to whom such complaints can be sent for investigation so that adherence of rules and regulations and guidelines could be ensured? Some persons have been working at a particular station for the last 20 years whereas some are transferred within three months of their posting. Lakhs of rupees are taken as bribe for this purpose. To check all these things, will you institute scrutiny of

administrative decisions so that people may make complaints to them. Why they should go to an M.P. or the Minister for redressal of their grievances? Why the Minister wants to retain the discretionary power with him? Why the hon. Minister has said that there was no such proposal?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I would like to make it clear that the question was whether the Government purposes to institute administrative scrutiny or not. Rules and regulations framed under Article 77 of the Constitution provide for a lot of such facilities. If any complaint is made to the Government, there are several machineries available with the Government through which it can be investigated. I would like to say that there is the Vigilance Commission under Department of Personnel and Training and yet another agency is C.B.I. to look into such complaints. I would like to give you a good news that in the last session we have introduced the Lokpal Bill under which not only the officers but Cabinet Ministers the Prime Minister have been brought under its purview. I would like to assure that if any such complaint comes before us, appropriate action will be taken on it.

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: I do admit that CBI and other agencies are there but it has nothing to do with what I have mentioned. What I mean to say that some are not transferred even after completing three years whereas some are transferred just six months after their posting. Somewhere a person with 15 years of service is waiting for promotion whereas his juniors are promoted. Somewhere orders are issued by the Minister in favour of someone. In High Courts, they get justice after 20 years of litigation. No action has been taken against any person who has used his discretionary power arbitrarily. the Government should constitute a machinery which may look into the cases of harassment and favouritism and after making final scrutiny, action should be taken against the guilty and justice should be done. Who will approach the CBI and the Vigilance Commission? This can be done

there itself. Why have you rejected these suggestions so casually.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: There is no question of casual rejection. There is a way to give reply to the question and I have given reply that way. I would like to tell the hon. Member for his information that if any one does not want to go to the Vigilance Commission or other investigating agency, there are other machinery under the rules and regulations about which I would read out;

[English]

"The transaction of business rules seeks to define the authority, responsibility and obligations of each Department in the matter of disposal of business allocated. While providing that the business allocated to a Department will be disposed of under the direction of the Minister in charge, these rules also specify: (a) cases or category of cases to be submitted to the President, the Prime Minister, the Cabinet or its Committees for prior approval and (b) and circumstances in which the Department primarily concerned with the business under disposal will have to consult other Departments concerned and secure their concurrence before taking final decisions."

There are, therefore, built-in provisions in the transaction of business rules which can take care of these things.

[Translation]

Therefore, I would like to say that if the investigation through the Departmental inquiry is not proper or anyone objects to it, investigation can be assigned to any other agency but investigation will certainly be done.

KUMARI MAYAWATI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I agree with Shri Vijay Kumar Malhotra to a great extent. It has been seen that he it

National Front Government or the previous Government, top officials harass their subordinate employees. Either they take bribe or if their subordinate do not work according to their wishes, they are transferred to far flung areas and it is happening with the employees belonging to weaker sections on a very large scale. I have received many such complaints.

MR. SPEAKER: Mayawatiji, don't deliver speech but put question.

KUMARI MAYAWATI: Sir the Government frames rules and regulations to protect the Government employees from putting them into any difficulty or loss, so I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether steps would be taken by the Government to put those rules and regulations into practice so as to provide benefit to the Government employees, practice so as to provide benefit to the Government employees, particularly the employees belonging to weaker sections of the society?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell the hon. lady Member that if there is any complaint against any departmental head that he is not investigating the case properly, I think the complaint should be made to the Minister concerned and the Minister will definitely intervene into it. If the head of the department has committed any mistake, I would like to assure the hon. Member that the matter would also be investigated. If there is any complaint against any Minister, that can be made to the hon. Prime Minister.

SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether Shri Malhotra has written any letter to him regarding that important issue to which the hon. Member has drawn the attention of the House and whether the Minister proposes to get it investigated?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Shri Malhotra is habituated to write large number

of letters. So it is not easy to recollect any particular letter, but I would surely find out whether any letter on this issue has come to me. Through I have got this very bad habit of replying to each and every letter. Therefore, I would surely take action, if necessary.

SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI: I come from a hill area. I would like to seek some information with reference to the question raised here regarding the transfer of officials within two-three months of their posting. The people who are transferred from Himachal Pradesh to Delhi, Lucknow or Punjab are allowed to stay there for many years but nobody is sent to Himachal Pradesh in their place. I would like to have clarification from the hon. Minister in this regard.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: As per the convention in respect of transfers, wherever transfers become necessary, only those people who have been at a particular place for a longer time are transferred at the first instance. If any person has any complaint that he or she has been transferred or that efforts are being made to transfer them, then they themselves should air their grievances to the concerned Ministry. I would like to give an assurance that such injustice would not occur.

[English]

Recruitment to the Post of Director General, ICFRE

*453. SHRI P. NARSA REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether recently an advertisement was made for recruitment to the post of Director General, ICFRE (Indian Council for Forest Research and Education), Dehra Dun;

(b) if so, the qualifications prescribed for the post; and

(c) the criteria adopted for calling the candidates for interview?