

(a) whether there is shortage of judicial Members in the Central Administrative Tribunal Bench functioning in Rajasthan for the last nine months;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in making appointment of Judicial Members; and

(c) the steps taken to fill up the posts?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a): Two posts of Member (Judicial) are vacant in Jodhpur Bench of Central Administrative Tribunal. These two posts are expected to be filled up soon in accordance with the prescribed procedure set out in the Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985

Age Concession to Rural Area Candidates in Civil Services Examination

4025. SHRI C. SRINIVASAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to maintain age limit of candidates from urban areas at 28 and give a concessional age limit of 30 years to candidates from rural areas in the civil services examination; and

(b) if not, the reasons for not allowing candidates from rural areas the relaxation of two years to neutralise the disadvantage they suffer owing to late education and lack of means and facilities for higher education vis-a-vis candidates from urban areas?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b) Taking into account the fact that in rural areas people start their education rather late, Government have already raised the age limit for the Civil Services Examination from 26 years to 28 years for the general candidates. Government however have no proposal to have different age limits for the rural and urban candidates as such a distinc-

tion between candidates based on their places of birth or residence will not be constitutionally valid.

Clearance to Tehri Dam Project

4026. DR. DAULATRAO SONUJI AHER: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Environment Ministry have received any proposal from Government of Uttar Pradesh seeking clearance for Tehri Dam Project in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, its present stage, and

(c) the probable time to finalise the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c). The Tehri Dam Project is to be implemented by the Tehri Hydro Development Corporation Ltd., a joint venture Company of Government of India and Government U.P. This proposal was, therefore, referred to the Ministry of Environment & Forests by the Union Ministry of energy. Standing Environmental Appraisal Committee for River Valley Projects in the Ministry of Environment has examined the proposal and submitted its report which is under consideration of the Government. A final decision will be taken shortly.

New Approach for planning

4027. DR. DAULATRAO SONUJI AHER: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to adopt a new approach in future planning by laying more stress on social sectors