

(b) The reasons for the losses of the SEBs inter-alia include unremunerative tariff including the agricultural tariff, non-conversion of loans into equity, high T&D losses, low level of Plant Load Factor (PLF), High fuel consumption in Thermal Power Stations (TPSSs), etc.

(c) In order to make the SEBs commercially viable, State Governments/SEBs have been advised, from time to time, to undertake measures such as rationalisation of tariff, regular payment of rural electrification subsidy, improvement in Plant Load Factor (PLF), reduction in transmission and distribution losses, installation of Tamper Proof Meters, disconnection of illegal connections etc.

Enquiries against Secretary level officers

3854. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had referred a number of cases for enquiries against Secretary level officers to the Chief Vigilance Commissioner in 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(b) if so, the number and details of such enquiries during the last two years;

(c) the details of such officers presently occupying the post of Secretary in Government of India;

(d) whether it is a fact that such enquiries are being delayed; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) to (e) This Ministry have not referred any case for enquiries against Secretary level officers to the Central Vigilance Commission in 1994-95 and 1995-96.

Effect of Supreme Court Judgement Regarding Punishment of Fine on Entry/Retention in Government Service

3855. SHRI LAKKHIRAM AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention have been drawn to the recent judgement of the Supreme Court wherein the court had requested the Parliament that provision need be made that punishment of fine upto a certain limit, say upto Rs. 2,000 or so, on a summary or ordinary conviction, shall not be treated as a conviction at all for any purpose, and all the more for entry into and retention in Government service;

(b) if so, the action taken on the judgement so far; and

(c) the number of judgements pending for the last three years with Government in which Government have been directed to enact various laws?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) and (b) Government has seen judgement of the Supreme Court in Pawan Kumar vs. State of Haryana and Anr. (JT 1996 (5) S.C. 155). A person convicted of an offence involving moral turpitude is generally regarded as ineligible for Government service. However, in such cases where it is felt that there are redeeming features and reasons to believe that such a person has cured himself of the weakness, the Government may clear such a person for appointment. In the case of serving Government servants, such employees on conviction in Court cases are liable for departmental action. However, such action is to be taken not on account of conviction itself but in consideration of the conduct which has led to his conviction, the gravity of the misconduct committed by him, the impact which his misconduct is likely to have on the

administration and other extenuating circumstances or redeeming features.

(c) This information is not centrally maintained.

IAS, IPS and IFS Officers in Sikkim

3856. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total authorised/approved strength of cadre posts pertaining to IAS, IPS and IFS (Forestry) in the State of Sikkim;

(b) what is the authorised/approved strength of posts of Commissioner's rank officers in the IAS cadre and its equivalent in the IPS and IFS category for Sikkim; and

(c) what is the actual total strength of officers of Commissioner's rank in IAS and its equivalent in the Forest and Police services in Sikkim?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN):

(a) The total authorised/approved strength of cadre posts pertaining to IAS IPS and IFS in the Sikkim cadre is 53, 25 and 34 respectively.

(b) Commissioner rank posts in the IAS cadre are generally in the scale of Rs. 5900-6700 and above. In the IPS and IFS, the equivalent rank is that of Inspector General of Police and Chief Conservator of Forests respectively. For the Sikkim cadre, the authorised strength of cadre posts in these levels are given in Statement (See below).

(c) The actual number of officers against the sanctioned strength of the cadre, at various pay levels varies from time to time due to promotions to higher levels, deputations, officers perceiving on leave and training and due to retirements, etc.

Statement

IAS		IPS		IFS	
Pay Scale	No. of Posts	Pay Scale	No. of Posts	Pay Scale	No. of Posts
Rs. 7300-7600	1	Rs. 5900-6700 1 (Inspector General of Police)		Rs. 5900-6700 (Chief Conservator of Forests)	1
Rs. 5900-6700	6				

Compliance of Talcher Thermal Power Station Act, 1994

3857. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are complying with the conditions stipulated under Sub-section 2 (c) of Talcher Thermal Power Station Act, 1994; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) and (b) Sub-section 2(c) of Talcher Thermal Power Station (Acquisition and Transfer) Act, 1994 relates to the appointment of the Commissioner. The appointment is made by the State Government. No action is warranted by the Central Government in this regard.