

MENON): (a) The news item and the letter to the Editor which appeared in "The Telegraph" on the 4th January and 21st February, 1990 respectively have been noted.

(b) and (c) No scientist has been deprived of rightful promotion as alien ged. As per the policy with regard to assessment of Scientists for promotion from EI to EII, two parameters needed to be satisfied: (i) Only those scientists who secured a rating above the threshold were to be considered for placement in the higher grade; (ii) In case the number of scientists who crossed the threshold rating exceeded 50 per cent of the total number of scientists appearing for interview, only 50 per cent of the scientists in order of merit would be placed in the higher grade. None of the 3 scientists mentioned secured marks above the threshold fixed by the Assessment Committee.

(d) to (f) A member of the Assessment Committee wrote letter evincing interest with respect to one candidate whose scientific discipline did not fall within the members' field of expertise. Since the decisions are taken by the Committee as a whole and since the said member's expertise did not pertain to the scientific discipline of the candidate, the letters tantamount to undue and unjustified pressure from a member of the Assessment Committee. Normally such acts would attract reprimand. However, in this case, it was decided to close the matter.

Disclosures regarding the Allahabad connection

2284. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD:
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the revealing disclosures made in the article entitled 'the Allahabad Connection' which appeared in the Sunday Mail of the 10th June, 1990 raising serious doubts on "the bureaucracy at its highest as also the political masters; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government would make inquiries in the matter and keep them in mind before making fresh promotions, foreign transfers/tours etc. ?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):

(a) and (b) The Government have seen the article published in the 'Sunday Mail', dated 10th June, 1990.

Selection of officers for appointment to senior posts in the Government of India is made only with due regard to seniority, merit and suitability.

"Emerson Football Challenge shield missing from Danapur Cantonment Board, Bihar"

2285. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the "Emerson Football Challenge Shield" a hundred years old football tournament costing Rs. 80, 000 has been missing from the custody of Danapur Cantonment Board, Bihar, since August 1987;

(b) if so, whether the matter was reported to police;

(c) if so, the details of action taken by the Danapur police in this regard;

(d) whether Government propose to refer this case to the C. B. I., Patna for investigations and finding out the real culprits; and

(e) if not the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) and (g) A very old shield, deposited in the store room of Danapur Cantonment Board Office, was found missing and the matter was reported to the local police on 1st September, 1987.