

(17 August, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) As per information received from 58 Ministries/Departments, as on 1.1.1999, there was a backlog of 6171 vacancies meant for Handicapped Persons in various Ministries/Departments of the Government of India. The details of backlog vacancies in respect of Public Sector Undertakings is not being maintained centrally.

(c) to (e) The Staff Selection Commission proposes to hold a special examination to facilitate filling up of matriculation level vacancies meant for Visually Handicapped persons in various Ministries-Departments on 24th September, 2000.

**Experts deputed abroad to take foreign assignments**

2753. SHRI K. B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of experts are being deputed abroad to take Foreign Assignments under Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) and Bilateral Assignments to developing countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America;

(b) if so, the number of such experts deputed during the last five years, year-wise alongwith the number of persons belonging to SCs<sup>7</sup> STs among them and their percentage as compared to the total number; and

(c) if adequate number of persons belonging to the SCs-STs community are not given representation in the said training programme, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.