

Relaxation to handicapped candidates in IAS exams

†*434. SHRI RANBIR SINGH PARJAPATI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken a decision in principle to provide three per cent reservation, ten years age relaxation and three more chances to the persons of handicapped category treating it as a separate category for appearing in Indian Administrative Service Examination by implementing the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995;

(b) if so, the reasons for three extra chances to physically handicapped of the general category and exclusion of handicapped of Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and other backward classes; and

(c) the reasons for not providing ten years age relaxation to the handicapped of all categories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Rules 4 and 6 of the Civil Services Examination (CSE) Rules govern the age limit and the number of chances for a candidate appearing in the CSE. At present the upper age limit is 30 years for general category candidate, 33 years for OBC and 35 years for SC/ST candidates. However Note 1 to Rules 6 of the CSE Rules says that candidates belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes who are also covered under any other clauses of Rules 6(b) viz. those coming under the category of Ex servicemen, persons domiciled in the State of Jammu and Kashmir, blind, deaf — mute, and orthopedically handicapped etc. will be eligible for grant of cumulative age relaxation under both the categories.

Keeping in view that PH candidates have a disadvantage in preparing for and competing in the Civil Services Examination, general PH candidates can avail 7 chances to appear in Civil Services Examination which is at par with number of chances available to non-PH OBC candidates. In the case of PH candidates belonging to SC/ST category they can appear in CSE till they attain maximum age as prescribed. Government considers the limit on number of chances available to the various categories of candidates as adequate.

Bilateral agreement with Prime Minister of UK

*435. SHRI RANJITSINH VIJAYSINH MOHITE-PATIL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any bilateral agreement(s) have been made between India and United Kingdom during the recent visit of British Prime Minister;

(b) whether the issue of discriminatory immigration policy towards Indian migrants and Non-European migrants had figured in the discussion;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.