

(d) Government have always been of the view that such matters can be satisfactorily resolved only on the basis of the willing cooperation and consensus among the State Governments concerned. As such, it is for them to work out mutually acceptable solution through discussions. The Central Government, if approached for any assistance, would be glad to extend it.

All India Services Examinations in regional languages

721. SHRI M. KADERSHAH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of a strong feeling in the non-Hindi speaking States to the effect that questions for the All India Services Examination should be set not only in English and Hindi but also in all the regional languages in which candidates are permitted to answer; and

(b) if so, the steps Government have taken or propose to take in the matter in the interests of candidates answering in regional languages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. D. PATIL): (a) and (b) There is some criticism of the decision taken to set question papers for the Civil Services Examination from 1979 onwards in English and Hindi and not in the other languages listed in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution.

Every candidate appearing at the Civil Services Examination from this year will be required to qualify in the compulsory English paper, designed to test his understanding of the language. Such a candidate will be able to comprehend question papers set in English. As such no difficulty is expected to be encountered by a candidate desiring to answer in a scheduled language of his choice. Government do not, therefore, consider that in actual practice the interests of candidates answering in scheduled languages will suffer.

Further, setting of question papers in all the scheduled languages is impractical because of the following difficulties:

(i) Ensuring accuracy in the translation of all test booklets and question papers particularly in technical and science subjects;

(ii) Printing of around a thousand language versions of papers and arranging for their distribution to different examination centres and to a large number of candidates; and

(iii) Ensuring the secrecy of the papers in the examination because of the association of a large number of translators, typists and printing presses-

Supply of drinking water to the Hari-jan families by landlords in Delhi villages

722. SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report in the 'Patriot' of 25th January, 1979 to the effect that a number of Hari-jan families have been deprived of drinking water by the landlords in Delhi villages;

(b) whether any enquiry has been made in the matter; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken against the culprits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI DHANIK LAL MANDAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) the Delhi Administration made enquiries and found that the allegations were not substantiated.

Resentment by Members of Parliament on the introduction of regional languages in All India Services Examinations

723. SHRI GHOUSE MOHTDDIN SHEIKH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent decision