regular staff employees of the same Department;

- (b) what is the present number of persons employed as E.D. Staff; and
- (c) what steps have been taken by Government to implement the recommendations of the Committee on Extra Departmental employees?

MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K. BRAHMANANDA REDDI):
(a) A statement showing the minimum and maximum limits within which the consolidated remuneration of various categories of the E.D. Agents is regulated and their conditions of service is enclosed. As the E.D. Agents are employed on part-time basis and the regular employees of P&T

Department are full-time Government servants their conditions of service are quite different and hence not comparable.

- (b) 2,05,321 as on 31-3-73.
- (c) Decisions on most of the recommendations of Committee on Extra Departmental System in the P&T Department have been taken and Government orders, wherever necessary, have been issued. Decisions on the pending recommendations will be taken shortly.

Statement

(i) Statement showing the minimum and maximum within which the various categories of the Extra Departmental Agents are granted the Consolidated remuneration.

Category of E.D. Agents	Consolidated remuneration	
	Minimum	Maximum
. E.D. Sub-postmaster/E.D. Sorter/E.D. Sul Record clerks	Rs. 107. 50 p.m.	Rs. 130 p.m
P. E.D. Branch Postmasters	. Rs. 65 50 p.m.	Rs. 90 p.m.
3. E.D. Stamp Vendors	. Rs. 72 · 50 p.m.	Rs. 90 p.m.
4. E.D. Messengers	. Rs. 60 50 p.m.	Rs. 85 p.m.
5. E.D. Chowkidars	. Rs. 60 50 p.m.	Rs. 85 p.m.
6. E.D. Mail Carriers/Runners)/E.D. Deliver Agents/E.D. Packers/ E.D. Letter Box Peons E.D. Mail Peons/E.D. Porters and other E.D. Agents		Rs. 85 p.m.

(ii) Service conditions of E.D. Agents; they are not entitled to pension or DCRG, or leave with allowance. They are however entitled to ex-gratia gratuity after 15 years continuous service. Penalties of recovery for loss, removal and dismissal can be imposed on them after following prescribed procedures. The service of those who have rendered not more than three years continuous service can be terminated without notice for unsatisfactory work or on any administrative ground unconnected with his conduct. Subject to certain conditions, they are eligible for absorption in regular posts for which they are given concession in maximum age limit prescribed for direct recruits. They are retained in the EDA capacity upto the age of 65 years.

I.A.S. Examinations

- *351. DR. RAM KIRPAL SINHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that while other candidates for the I.A.S. examinations get three chances, released ECOs/SSCOs Officers do not get this facility;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that while the age limit for candidates for I.A.S. Examination has been raised up to 26 years, it continues to be 24 years for ECOs/SSCOs at the time of their joining pre-commissioning training; and
- (c) if so, what steps are being taken to eliminate this discrimination?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The orders in regard to reservation of posts in favour of the ECOs/SSCOs, which were in force till 28-1-1974 were specifically meant for ECOs/SSCOs who were commissioned or who joined pre-commission training during the emergency which was in force till 10-1-1968. Such reservation was provided in order to compensate them for the chances for appearing in the I.A.S. etc. Examination which they had missed by taking up commissions. During the period concerned, candidates in general were entitled to appear only twice for the I.A.S. etc. Examinations, subject to a maximum age of 24 years. Accordingly, the ECOs/SSCOs, although released in later years, were entitled only to those two chances which they missed subject also to the age limit prevailing at the time when they missed the chances. Therefore, the fact that the upper age limit for the I.A.S. etc. Examination has been raised to 26 years now and the general candidates are now permitted to avail themselves of three chances is not relevant for the ECOs/SSCOs who were commissioned or who joined pre-commission training during the previous emergency, which ended on 10-1-1968. Since there is no discrimination between the Emergency Commissioned Officers and Short Service Commissioned Officers, who joined pre-commission training or were commissioned during the previous emergency and the general candidates who appeared in the I.A.S. etc. Examination during that period, either in the matter of age limits or with regard to the number of chances, the question of taking steps to eliminate it does not arise.

पिछड़े क्षेत्रों का विकास
352. श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्रः
श्री भैरों सिंह शेखावतः
डा० राम पाल सिंहः

क्या **योजना** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

- (क) क्या पिछड़े क्षेत्रों के विकास की समस्या पर विचार करने के लिये कोई समिति बनाई गई है;
- (ख) समिति ने क्या सिफारिशें की हैं; ग्रौर
- (ग) उन पर सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

†[Development of backward areas

*352. SHRI PRAKASH VIR SHASTRI:

SHRI B. S. SHEKHAWAT:

DR. RAM KRIPAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any committee has been constituted to consider the development of the backward areas;
- (b) what are the recommendations made by the committee; and
- (c) what action Government have taken thereon?]

योजना मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मोहन धारिया) : (क) जी, हां।

(ख) और (ग) ः पिछड़े क्षेत्र संबंधी समिति का विचार-विमर्श भ्रभी परा नहीं हुम्रा है ।

†[THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) Yest, Sir.

(b) and (c) The deliberations of the Committee on Backward Areas have not yet been completed.]

IAS/IPS Officers for Karnataka

- *353. SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of IAS and IPS Officers allocated to Karnataka;