

will be incorrect to say that those who sat at the Interview Board did not know the Nepalese language and did not speak in Nepali.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Any other question?

SHRI K. B. CHETTRI : Yes, Sir. My second question is this : It is understood that one Shri S. L. Mascara is working as the Supervisor in the Nepali Unit of the External Services Division in the AIR against whom numerous complaints have been received by the Government. May I know whether he possesses any academic qualification in Nepali and, if not, I would like to know from the honourable Minister as to how he got into the AIR services?

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL : Sir, I am not aware of Mr. Mascara and of what he is doing nor was it mentioned in the main question and so, I have not got the information available with me now. But one thing I may tell you now. As I said just now, the Selection Board was of that level and calibre that they were all immune to any external influence.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes, Dr. Chakrabarti.

DR. R. K. CHAKRABARTI : Sir, in spite of the sentiments running high for the inclusion of the Nepalese language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution, we find that the Ministry could not find even a single educated Nepali to be on the Selection Board. I would like to know whether the Government will consider reserving a certain number of posts in the External Services for the Nepalese-speaking people alone?

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL : I have already stated that it is incorrect to say that there was no Nepali-speaking member on the Board.

DR. R. K. CHAKRABARTI : But I would like to know whether there was anybody of Nepalese origin, whether the Minister could not find one such member.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL : I have already stated that those members know the Nepalese language. The basic question is whether those who sit in judgment knew the Nepalese language or not and I have said about that. But it will be a sad day if we say that the judges should come from the same origin also. That will not be a correct approach also.

DR. R. K. CHAKRABARTI : There was nobody of Nepalese origin.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL : That is what I am saying. To say that the member should also come from the same origin is wrong and it will be a sad day.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right, Mr. Chakrabarti.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL : May I add, Sir, that we even went to the extent of requesting a High Court Judge to be on the Board and on their recommendation we proceed.

SHRI SARDAR AMJAD ALI : May I know how selection committees are formed for recruiting Translators-cum-Announcers?

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL : Generally speaking, such committees are internally constituted. But in this particular case, because we were aware that there were sensitivities, we involved external experts from the very beginning.

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SHRI K. C. PANDA : I beg to make one suggestion, Sir. I do not want to insist on the question.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : Sir, since this is a sensitive question, we do not propose to take it up.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right. Next question.