

Out of 46 Direct Recruits appointed in the year 1971, only two were recruited through the Employment Exchange. Out of these 2 posts, one was reserved for and filled by a Scheduled Caste candidate. The other 44 persons were appointed in the Central Secretariat Clerical Service through the Department of Personnel on the basis of the Clerk's Grade Examination. The roster for this service is maintained for the vacancies occurring not only in the Ministry but also in its attached offices. The posts reserved for S.C./S.T. candidates were duly intimated to the Department of Personnel.

Five Class IV persons were recruited in the year 1971, as a special case, including 2 candidates, one each belonging to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe.

TELEPHONE SERVICES IN BANGALORE

1556. SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL :
DR. K. NAGAPPA ALVA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that according to statistics released by the Posts and Telegraphs Department the telephone services in Bangalore are not satisfactory; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to improve the services?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA) :

(a) The overall performance of the telephone service at Bangalore is not unsatisfactory. The question raised appears to be based on a recent news paper report which contained figures of complaints and duration to clear a fault. These statistics relate almost entirely to the working of the outdoor plant.

(b) A number of steps have been taken to improve the performance of the external plant. They are:

(i) Laying of underground cables in ducts and gas pressurisation of underground cables.

(ii) Replacement of overhead wires by underground cables.

(iii) Increasing the availability of vehicles per unit.

(iv) Removing the weaknesses of the telephone instruments and action taken in coordination with Indian Telephone Industries Bangalore for improved types of telephone instrument.

PENSION TO FREEDOM FIGHTERS

1557. SHRI M. K. MOHTA:

SHRI MONORANJAN ROY:

SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA
MENON :

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA
SINGH:

SHRI BANARSI DAS :

SHRIMATI SAVITA BEHEN:

SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:

SHRI SANAT KUMAR
RAHA:

SHRI DWIJENDRALAL SEN
GUPTA :

SHRI BALACHANDRA
MENON :

SHRI GANESH LAL
MALI :

SHRI KALI MUKHERJEE :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have since started payment of pension to the freedom fighters;

(b) if so, the number of the freedom fighters getting pension;

(c) the basis on which they were selected and the amount of the pension being paid in each case; and

(d) the number of applications rejected, State-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Precise information is not available. However, 6,384 freedom fighters have so far been approved for the grant of pension.

(c) The requisite information called for is attached as per Statement I.

(d) 499 as per statement II attached.

STATEMENT I

Pension has been approved to the following eligible Freedom Fighters.

1. (i) Persons who have suffered imprisonment in the main-land jails for a period of not less than six months before Independence and their families, where the freedom fighters are no longer alive. This includes ex-I.N.A. personnel also.

(ii) The families of the martyrs who gave their lives for the freedom of the country and families of INA personnel who died fighting the Britishers.

(iii) Persons who remained underground but did not suffer imprisonment if they were (1) proclaimed offenders (2) those cases on whom awards for arrest had been announced but were not arrested or (3) those cases whom detention orders were issued but not served.

(iv) Persons interned in their homes or externed from their Districts provided the period of internment/ex-ternment was for six months or more.

(v) Freedom fighters who suffered imprisonment of not less than six months in Movements for merger of the erstwhile Princely States within the Indian Union after the 15th August, 1947, till the date of accession of the State with the Indian Union.

(vi) Persons whose properties were confiscated or attached and sold, because of participation in National movements.

(vii) Persons who became permanently incapacitated during firing or lathi-charge; and

(viii) Persons who lost their jobs or means of livelihood due to their participation in National Movements. This will include persons who were dismissed from Defence Services.

2. The monthly rate of pension ranges between Rs. 100-200. In exceptional cases a monthly pension of more than Rs. 200/- p. m. is sanctioned. According to the scheme the minimum pension for a freedom fighter is Rs. 200/- p. m. and that of a family member, if the freedom fighter is no longer alive is Rs. 100/- for each unmarried daughter Rs. 50/- p. m. is sanctioned till her marriage subject to a maximum of Rs. 100/-. Pensions granted by State Governments/Union Territories as on 15-8-1972 are taken into account when Central pensions are approved.

STATEMENT II

State	Rejected
Assam	9
Bihar	28
Gujarat	30
Haryana	12
Madhya Pradesh	17
Maharashtra	63
Orissa	34
Rajasthan	17
Delhi	21
Chandigarh	6
Uttar Pradesh	65
West Bengal	..
Pondicherry	5
Mizoram	..
Goa	12
Manipur	4
Punjab	..
Tripura	1
Himachal Pradesh	..
Jammu & Kashmir	..
Meghalaya	..
Mysore	35
Andhra Pradesh	77
Tamil Nadu	41
Kerala	19
TOTAL	499