

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES (SHRI BHAKT DARSHAN): (a) to (d) The requisite information is being collected from the Delhi Administration and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha as soon as it is received.

ACTION AGAINST ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

1642. CHAUDHARY A. MOHAMMAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question No. 917 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 19th May, 1970 and state:

(a) what progress has been made in the matter of taking departmental action against certain Enforcement Officers of Enforcement Directorate, Bombay;

(b) whether one of the Officers, Shri S. G. Sahasrabhojane, has been placed under suspension; if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the departmental enquiry will be done by the Central Vigilance Commission; if not, by whom it will be done?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) Action against each officer will be taken according to the disciplinary rules applicable to him. With a view to having coordinated action the procedural drill is being chalked out and the precise charges against each are in the process of finalisation.

(b) Shri S. G. Sahasrabhojane has not been placed under suspension but his services have been replaced at the disposal of Government of Maharashtra.

(c) The question of entrusting the enquiry to a Commissioner for Departmental Enquiries under the Central Vigilance Commission can arise after consideration of the statements of defence of the officers.

ACTION AGAINST CHIEF ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

1643. CHAUDHARY A. MOHAMMAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) The reasons for which Shri M. A. Salvi, who was officiating as Assistant Director and now reverted to his substantive post of Chief Enforcement Officer, has failed to handover the charge of his office to the Department;

(b) whether it is a fact that while he was holding charge of the post a number of insured covers containing Indian currency seized by the Enforcement Directorate from the General Post Office during 1963-64 were missing together with the relevant files: if so, the details thereof and the action taken in the matter;

(c) what action Government propose to take against the said officer and the Deputy Director, who is in over all charge of the office; and

(d) whether Government propose to hand over this case to the Central Bureau of Investigation?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) Shri M. A. Salvi handed over charge of the post of Assistant Director of Enforcement on the afternoon of 14th June, 1970.

(b) On quick verification it has been reported that the insured envelopes seized by the Enforcement Directorate in 1963-64 were deposited in the Reserve Bank for safe custody. So far there is nothing to suggest that any of the insured envelopes and the connected case files is missing.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

*STUDY TEAM ON CUSTOMS AND CENTRAL EXCISE

1359. SHRI K. L. N. PRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state what are the main recommendations of the Study Team on Customs and Central Excise set up by the Administrative Reforms Commission on the setting up of independent appellate tribunals for both Customs and Central Excise?

†Transferred from the 26th August, 1970.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : On the question of setting up independent appellate tribunals the Working Group on Customs and Central Excise Administration appointed by the Administrative Reforms Commission made the following recommendations in the report submitted by it to the Commission :—

"There is considerable public opinion in favour of establishment of independent appellate tribunals. These may be set up and the objections of cost, delay and uncertainty met by the under-mentioned measures :

(a) A fee sufficient to deter frivolous appeals could be prescribed and refunded if the appeal succeeds. An alternative of departmental review of original decisions by a hierarchy of superior officers for cases involving small amounts may also be provided.

(b) The appellate tribunals may only deal with cases at the second stage of revision applications.

(c) It should be provided that the Board's general rulings will be binding on the appellate tribunal also except that the appellate tribunal could refer any such ruling which is not acceptable to it, to Supreme Court for a final decision, the Supreme Court's final decision holding the field prospectively."

†EXTENSION OF SERVICE OR RE-EMPLOYMENT OF AN OFFICER

1415. SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHARAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the general policy of the Government of India in regard to extension of service or re-employment of an officer beyond 58 years in age;

(b) whether any officer of the Prime Minister's Secretariat has been given extension of service or re-employment during the last three years, if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor; and

(c) the number of applications for expansion of service or re-employment of officers from the various Ministries they are now pending ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. S. RAMASWAMY) : (a) Extensions of service/re-employment are granted to Central Government employees only in the public interest and instructions have been issued laying down the criteria and procedure for granting extensions of service re-employment to ensure that such extensions/re-employment are granted in rare and exceptional circumstances only and in the public interest.

(b) The only case of extension of service in the Prime Minister's Secretariat during the last three years is that of a Section Officer in the Personal Section of the Secretary to the Prime Minister. The officer's services were extended by one year with effect from 1-10-1968 on his attaining the age of superannuation in the first instance, in the public interest. His services have been extended for one more year with effect from 1-10-1969 on the same grounds. There has been no case of re-employment in the Prime Minister's Secretariat during the last three years.

(c) The Ministry of Home Affairs (Establishment Division)—now the Department of Personnel—are required to be consulted only in regard to the grant of extension/re-employment of superannuated officers beyond the age of 60 years in Class I and Class II posts under the Government or in posts in the Public Sector Undertakings/Statutory Bodies which are required to be filled with the approval of the Central Government. At present, three such cases are pending in the Department of Personnel.

†UPPER DIVISION GRADE EXAMINATION

1432. SHRI BALACHANDRA MENON : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether some Members of Parliament represented to her that the Ministry

†Transferred from the 27th August, 1970.