

(b) if so, the number of officers selected as a result of these examinations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. S. RAMASWAMY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. One examination was held by the Union Public Service Commission in October, 1966. Twenty-five candidates have been recommended by the Commission for appointment to the all-India and Central Services on the basis of this examination.

#### MAN-DAY LOSS DUE TO GHERAOS

681. SHRI RAM CHANDER: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total man-day loss due to the gherao movement so far; and

(b) whether the system of Arbitration Boards is being considered for settling such grave differences as lead to gheraos; if so, what decision has been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI L. N. MISHRA): (a) Information is not available.

(b) The Government of India have advised all State Governments to have greater recourse to voluntary arbitration for the settlement of industrial disputes whenever bi-partite discussions and conciliations fail.

#### RETIREMENT AGE OF HIGH COURT JUDGES

682. SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHARAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state whether there is any move under Government's consideration to increase the retirement age of High Court Judges?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN): No Sir.

#### THUNDER-STORM IN FAMINE-STRICKEN AREAS OF BIHAR

683. SHRI K. SUNDARAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a heavy thunder-storm lashed different parts of the famine-stricken areas of Bihar recently;

(b) if so, the extent of damage to life and property caused by the storm; and

(c) the Central assistance rendered by the Government for the relief of the victims?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. S. RAMASWAMY): (a) and (b) Reports of thunder-storm over four districts received so far reveal death of two persons and damages caused to fruit and food-grain crops only.

(c) No relief was called for and hence no request made for Central assistance.

684. [Transferred to the 14th June, 1967].

#### RETIREMENT AGE OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

685. SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to reduce the retirement age of Government employees from 58 to 50; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.