

(c) The Government of India does not accord dual citizenship. However, Government of India issues Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI) cards to eligible Persons of Indian Origin in various countries, which is a life long multiple entry, multi purpose visa for visiting India and accords the right to residency and employment in India.

Reservation in promotion in Government service

†828. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Allahabad High Court has abolished the provision of reservation in promotion to Government employees in one of its orders;

(b) whether Government is cognizant that Centre has to safeguard the constitutional rights of promotion in Government services; and

(c) the steps taken by Central Government to safeguard this right of Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) The Allahabad High Court in Writ Petition No. 1389(S/B) of 2007 has, in its order dated 4th January, 2011, *inter-alia*, clarified that if the Government of Uttar Pradesh decides to provide reservation in promotion to any class or classes of posts in the services under the State, it is free to do so after undertaking the exercise as required under the constitutional provisions, keeping in mind the law laid down by the Apex Court in the case of M. Nagaraj. But till such an exercise is done and enactment/Rule is consequently made, no reservation in promotion on any post or classes of posts under the services of the State including the corporations, etc. shall be made henceforth.

(b) and (c) The Central Government is committed to protect the interests of backward classes of citizens, including in relation to their recruitment and promotion in services. According to the existing instructions, reservation to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the matter of promotion is available in all Grades of Central Government Services if promotion is made by non-selection method and upto the lowest rung of Group A, if promotion is made by selection method. Constitution does not allow reservation in promotion for Other Backward Classes.

Reservation in Services of a State is the subject matter of State Governments who have to ensure that Constitutional provisions in this regard are adhered to.

Induction of visually impaired candidates in IAS

829. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether visually impaired candidates are eligible for induction into the Indian Administrative Service;

(b) whether because of denial of their claims, the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) had to intervene and order their induction;

(c) whether Government has taken any steps to implement the CAT decision; and

(d) whether there are any more deserving disabled candidates for induction into IAS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) Civil Services Examination (CSE) Rules, 2010 *inter-alia*, provide that partially blind candidates are eligible for appointment into IAS.

(b) to (d) The Orders of the CAT Principal Bench in various OAs are under consideration in consultation with Department of Legal Affairs.

Proposal to amend RTI

†830. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has received proposal from Government and non-Government sources for amendment in Right to Information Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether Government is considering to enforce these proposals; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (c) The Central Government has received some suggestions/communications suggesting amendments to the Right to Information Act. These include enlargement of the scope of exemptions from disclosure of information, rejection of vexatious and frivolous requests etc. It has, however, been decided that amendment to the Act, if any, shall be made after discussion with various stakeholders.

Loss due to not imposing penalties in RTI cases

831. SHRI S. THANGAVELU:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that information commissioners across the country have caused a

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.