

ten thousand Muslims have been turned out of their houses on the pretext of constructing Mangla Dam with the help of American Engineers and that they are being sent to the Indian territory beyond the cease fire' line?]

वैदेशिक कार्य मंत्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री दिनेश सिंह) : इस विषय पर सरकार के पास कोई सूचना नहीं है।

[THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): Government have no information on the subject.]

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: It has been stated on behalf of the Government that the Government have no information on the subject. Have they come to this position of ignorance after making proper efforts in order to find out the exact situation with regard to this problem? Were any attempts made to find out things from the United States of America and others concerned?

SHRI DINESH SINGH: The question asked is a little different from what the hon. Member seems to have understood. The question is whether thousands of Muslims have been turned out and sent into Indian territory. We have nothing to ask the U.S.A. about it.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: But American engineers are also there.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: I would suggest the hon. Member reads the question before he puts his sup-plemenitaries.

SCHEDULED CASTES AND TRIBES OFFICERS WORKING AS CONTROLLERS AND ASSISTANT CONTROLLERS OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

*505. SHRI B. K. GAIKWAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts of Controllers of Imports and Exports and

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Assistant Controllers of Imports and Exports in his Ministry and its attached and subordinate Departments;

(b) the number of members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes working against the posts mentioned in part (a) above; and

(c) whether the quota of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is complete in respect of the above posts?

THE MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) 42 posts of Controller of Imports and Exports; and 115 posits of Assistant Controller of Imports and Exports.

(b) 2 Scheduled Castes officers in the cadre of Controller of Imports and Exports and 18 Scheduled Castes and 1 Scheduled Tribes Officer in the cadre of Assistant Controller of Imports and Exports.

(c) There is a shortage of 1 Scheduled Castes and 1 Scheduled Tribe officer in the cadre of Controller. The Union Public Service Commission have been requested to nominate suitable candidates from these two communities.

There is no shortage regarding Scheduled Castes in the cadre of Assistant Controller. There is, however, shortage of 3 Scheduled Tribes in that cadre. The Union Public Service Commission have been requested to nominate suitable candidates from this community.

SHRI B. K. GAIKWAD: The Statement that has been placed on the Table of the House shows that out of 42 posts of Controller of Imports and Exports, only 2 are filled by Scheduled Caste officers and one is filled by a Scheduled Tribe officer. And in reply to part (c) it is stated that there is a

shortage of 1 Scheduled Caste officer and 1 Scheduled Tribe officer. But what is the percentage fixed for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in Government service?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: That is different for different posts. In the case of these posts we are asked by the Home Ministry Circular that we should have a minimum of 3 out of 42.

SHRI B. K. GAIKWAD: May I know whether it is a fact that 12 per cent, of posts are reserved for the Scheduled Castes and 8 per cent, of posts are reserved for Scheduled Tribes in Class I and Class II services?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: In this particular case of Controllers and Assistant Controllers of Imports and Exports, since many tariff questions of an international character are involved, there is discretion given in making these appointments. We have been writing to the Union Public Service Commission as I have already mentioned in the latter part of my answer, and still they are not able to find people who can fill up those posts. In posts lower than Assistant Controllers, a much larger number is engaged.

SHRI B. K. GAIKWAD: Who fixes these percentages? At one time it is 12 per cent, and at another it is fixed as 3 per cent. Which is the authority that fixes these percentages?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: These are authoritative percentages circularised by the Home Ministry. It is not always possible in every cadre, to fill up all the posts with the adequate number of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe candidates. As I have stated, the U.P.S.C. has been repeatedly requested to nominate suitable candidates from these people. It is not our unwillingness to absorb them. We would like to take much more than these percentages and the moment they are available we will absorb them.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: The questions of filling the posts and that of reservations are entirely different. The Minister said that no suitable candidates are available. May I know from the hon. Minister what difficulty is there in reserving a certain percentage of posts for these people as has been decided by the Home Ministry? They may lie vacant because of the nonavailability of suitable candidates. But what is the difficulty about making this reservation?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: There is no difficulty at all either to make the reservation or to make the appointment. The moment we get suitable candidates we can have this percentage and even more.

SHRI B. K. GAIKWAD: Is it because suitable candidates were not available and, therefore, the percentage has decreased?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is exactly what he said. They are not available, he said.

SHRI B. K. GAIKWAD: May I know whether it is a fact that suitable and fully qualified and experienced candidates from the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes are coming forth before the U.P.S.C. and in spite of the fact that they have been called for the interview, they are rejected only* on the ground that they are not found "suitable". May I know from the Government what this "suitability" is?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: There is the Union Public Service Commission and they have their rules. It is an august body which has to be trusted with the selection of candidates. If the hon. Member can give me the names of candidates who, in his opinion, are suitable, I will pass on all the names to the Union Public Service Commission. I will only be too glad to do that.

*506. [The questioner (Shri A. B. Vajpayee) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 2529-30 infra.]