

involved in this matter. We experience practical difficulties because of the language, knowledge of local conditions etc. etc. Apart from that we were always confronted with requests for transfers.

DR. R. B. GOUR: Was this 'etcetera' business not there when the recruitment was on a central basis?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: As I have already explained to the hon. Member, the scope of the whole work of recruitment, training etc. has increased from what it was before. From about 323 in 1939 the cadre has swollen to about 987 and so there is a good deal of work in the Directorate of Development.

DR. R. B. GOUR: But my point has not yet been answered, Sir. Was not the earlier recruitment on a central basis? Now it has been decentralised on a certain basis and this decentralisation involves discrimination against the cadre that comes from the South and.....

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: I repudiate that suggestion.

DR. R. B. GOUR: But I have got facts here to show.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Maybe so now, but it is not always so.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: I can assure the hon. Member that people from the South can compete from the Punjab.

DR. R. B. GOUR: But they have to learn a different language; and that is not possible, or they have to learn Hindi which also is not possible. That is my point.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: May I reply, Sir?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: That was the very reason. We did this because of the lack of knowledge of

the local conditions, the local language and because their work brought the staff into contact with the public every day and it was important for us to ensure efficiency. Apart from the question of decentralisation of the cadre, the question of efficiency also is involved and we cannot sacrifice efficiency for the purpose of this thing or that.

DR. R. B. GOUR: How then can the Southern Circle have a single cadre? There are many languages. There are the different languages in Hyderabad, in Bombay, in Madras and several other places. Then even according to the hon. Minister's own admission there should be a circle for every linguistic region.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: I hope the hon. Member will appreciate that the same difficulty will be experienced by people from the Punjab, or Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and other places, if they were to compete for vacancies in the Madras circle.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Am I to understand, Sir, that.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have called the next question.

TEST FOR SELECTION OF PERSONNEL TO THE ENGINEERING SUPERVISORS SERVICE

*12. DR. R. B. GOUR: Will the Minister for COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state whether the selection of personnel to the Engineering Supervisors' cadre is made by the Union Public Service Commission; if not, why it has not been entrusted to the Commission?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): Engineering Supervisors' cadre is a non-gazetted class III cadre and the Union Public Service Commission is generally concerned only with recruitment to services in class II and above.