THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) The total number of Secretaries to the Government of India belonging to IAS as on 31.3.2011 is 63.

- (b) Out of above, one Secretary to the Government of India belongs to ST category.
- (c) The total number of Joint Secretaries to the Government of India belonging to IAS as on 31.3.2011 is 196.
- (d) Out of the 196 Joint Secretaries to the Government of India belonging to IAS, 13 belong to SC category and 4 to ST category.

Appointments in Kendriya Bhandar

2537. PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has directed Kendriya Bhandar that all appointments should be made strictly in accordance with Recruitment Rules;
- (b) whether it is mandatory for Kendriya Bhandar to comply the directions issued by Government;
- (c) if so, the reasons for not quashing appointments made in contravention of Article 16 of the Constitution; and
- (d) whether there is any proposal to appoint Administrator in Kendriya Bhandar as per the provisions of Section 123 of MSCS Act, 2002 since Kendriya Bhandar has not obeyed Government directions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) It is mandatory for Kendriya Bhandar to comply with the directions issued by the Central Government under Section 122 of the Multi State Co-operative Society Act, 2002.
- (c) The appointments have been made by the Board of Directors of Kendriya Bhandar under the powers vested with them as per provision of Section 49 of the MSCS Act, 2002 and as per Bye-law No. 22 of the Bye-laws of Kendriya Bhandar.
 - (d) No. Sir.

Appointment of retired officers

†2538. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the rules to appoint retired officers as consultants on temporary basis for short period at vacant posts in various Ministries/Departments of Government of India;
 - (b) the formula to fix salary of consultants appointed as such;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (c) whether their salary is fixed on the basis of last pay drawn by them during their service period or concerned department can arbitrarily fix their salary; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) General Financial Rules, 2005 envisage hiring of external professional, consultancy firms or consultants in the Ministries or Departments of the Government of India for a specific job which is well defined in terms of content and time frame for its completion or outsourcing certain services. Provisions in this regard are contained in Rules 163 to 185 of Chapter 6 of the General Financial Rules, 2005. Consultants are not appointed to fill up vacant posts.

(b) to (d) Government of India has not issued any instructions relating to fixation of salary of Consultants or appointment of retired officers as consultant.

Discrimination in promotion

2539. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that officers belonging to reserved categories are being discriminated in promotions/appointments;
- (b) if so, the list of such grievance cases pending in Department of Personnel and Training; and
- (c) the measures being taken to protect the interests of affected officials of reserved categories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) No grievance case in respect of discrimination to reserved category officials in promotions/appointments, is pending.
- (c) Various concessions like relaxation in upper age limit, more number of chances to appear at competitive examinations, relaxed standards of evaluation, reservation in services etc., are given to reserved category candidates so as to protect their interest.

Child prostitution in India

2540. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Supreme Court has expressed apprehensions that India could become hub for child prostitution of immediate corrective steps are not taken;
- (b) if so, whether in view of apprehensions expressed by the Supreme Court the Union Government proposes to take any corrective steps in this regard;