

Extension of working hours of Government employees

2380. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had contemplated extending working hours beyond 40 hours a week for Government employees by making each or alternate Saturday a working day or sticking to the present 5 days week system with extended daily work hours from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.;

(b) whether the plans have been scrapped in the wake of resistance from employees as most of the women employees use the week-end for pending household chores and family visits; and

(c) whether the Sixth Pay Commission report in 2008 had favoured sticking to the plan of 40 hours a week?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir. The 6th CPC had recommended continuation of the five day week with 40 hours of working in the offices of the Central Government.

Exclusion of Pali language from UPSC mains examination

2381. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether hundreds of students have been suffering due to exclusion of Pali language from the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) main examination for the last two years;

(b) if so, whether Ministry would re-introduce Pali from this academic year; and

(c) if non-inclusion of Pali in the 8th Schedule of the Constitution is the reason, whether the Ministry will move an amendment to the 8th Schedule to include Pali in it, and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No such proposal is currently under consideration of the Government.