

Directions for filling of backlog vacancies

2172. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state what directions are issued to all Ministries in the matter of backlog vacancies to be filled on or before 31st March, 2016, if so the response from all the Ministries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE. (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): No specific directions have been given to the Ministries/ Departments to fill up the backlog reserved vacancies on or before 31.03.2016. However, subsequent to the receipt of the recommendations of the Committee headed by Secretary, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, time bound action plan was communicated to all Department/Ministries on 20.11.2014 to fill up the reserved vacancies by August, 2016.

Revision of civil services examination

2173. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a committee's recommendation for revising the Civil Services exam in order to set questions in English and all the languages listed in Schedule VIII of the Constitution;

(b) if so, details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the recommendations given by Prof. Anandakrishnan committee were made part of the rules for the Civil Services Examination, if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor;

(d) whether there is an expert committee set up to assess the Civil Services Aptitude test; and

(e) if so, by when is the expert committee scheduled to come up with its recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) The Union Public Service Commission has so far constituted following committees for review of different aspects of Civil Services Examination including the language issues:-

- (i) Kothari Committee
- (ii) Satish Chandra Committee
- (iii) Y.K. Alagh Committee
- (iv) Anandakrishnan Committee
- (v) Bhattacharya Committee

- (vi) S.K. Khanna Committee
- (vii) Nigavekar Committee
- (viii) Purushottam Agarwal Committee.
- (ix) Baswan Committee.

Except for the Baswan Committee, which is yet to submit its report, all other Committees have since submitted their reports and in none of these reports, any recommendation has been made for revising the Civil Services to set questions in all the languages listed in Schedule VIII of the Constitution.

(c) The Committee *inter-alia* recommended that the candidates in the Civil Services Examination should be allowed to write their papers (other than the Indian language and English compulsory papers) in any of the languages included in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution provided the candidate has had his/her graduation in that particular language medium for the examination. However, in view of the concerns raised in the parliament, print and electronic media about Civil Services Examinations Rules, 2013, the said recommendation was not given effect by the Central Government.

(d) and (e) The Central Government has constituted an Expert Committee under chairmanship of Shri B. S. Baswan, vide Notice dated 12.8.2015 to examine the various issues connected with the Civil Services Examination. The Committee has been asked to submit its report within 06 months of its constitution.

Innovative way of reducing pendency of RTI applications

2174. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Information Commission (CIC) has found an innovative way of reducing pendency of cases by not opening envelopes of about 10,000 RTI applications in the last two months, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the CIC is asking RTI applicants to furnish a photo ID proof along with their appeals filed at CIC;

(c) whether under RTI rules, 2012 proof along with appeals need not be filed; and

(d) if so, the reasons CIC harassing RTI applicants and the remedial measures the Ministry would take against the erring officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE THE IN PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) The RTI Rules, 2012 do not specifically provide for furnishing photo identity Document (ID) along with appeals and complaints. However, in compliance of