

**Grant of pardons by President**

370. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has details regarding the number of grant of pardons by the President of India till date, since Independence;

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

(c) whether Government has details regarding the number of remission or commutation of a death sentence by the President of India till date, since Independence; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) As per the data readily available, during the period 1981 to 2016, with respect to 32 cases, death sentence was commuted to life imprisonment by the President of India. As regards the data prior to 1981, the same is being ascertained and will be laid on the table of the house.

**Steps to fill up vacant IPS posts**

371. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about hundreds of IPS posts are lying vacant in various States;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the reasons for keeping these posts vacant; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Central Government to fill up the vacant IPS posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The State-wise vacancy position is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) The vacancies in the service are caused due to retirement, resignation, death, removal from service etc. coupled with increase in cadre strength of various States cadres. To fill up the vacancies of IPS officers, the batch-size of IPS (direct recruit) has been increased from 88 to 103 from CSE, 2005, to 130 from CSE, 2008 and to 150 from CSE, 2009. Besides the above, the process of appointments to the Indian Police Service by promotion from State Police Service has been accelerated.