Further, in order to discourage unscrupulous persons getting benefits through false caste certificates. State Governments/Union Territories have also been requested to consider issue of appropriate instructions for initiating disciplinary proceeding against the errant officers who default in timely verifications of caste certificate or issue false certificates.

## Lateral entry in Civil Services

2183. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating to introduce lateral entry in Civil Services, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether Government would come forward to fill up the existing vacancies in a time bound manner instead of opting for lateral entry in Civil Services, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) The Government is always committed to appoint best available talent subject to provisions of rules. Recruitment to various posts in Government of India is made through various recruitment agencies established for the purpose such as Union Public Service Commission, Staff Selection Commission etc. Recruitment agencies conduct examinations based on requirements projected by various Ministries/Departments/ offices of Government of India.

NITI Aayog in the Three Year Action Agenda for 2017-2020 has recommended for inducting specialists into the system through lateral entry in policy making areas on fixed term contract. This recommendation along with suggestions received from other quarters is under consideration.

## Decline in appointments through direct recruitment

2184. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether total appointments in Central Government jobs through direct recruitment has declined by 89 per cent during 2015 in comparison to 2013;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and