

(a) whether it is a fact that the fee charged from candidates for examination to fill Government appointments published through advertisements by various departments is not refunded in case the appointments for the posts are cancelled due to any reasons;

(b) the number of cases in the country wherein fee charged from candidates was not refunded in case of cancellation of appointments; and

(c) whether the Ministry would consider a proposal to charge fee only from those candidates who get new Government appointments so that unemployed candidates are not put under a financial burden?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) The main recruitment agencies in the Central Government *i.e.* Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), Staff Selection Commission (SSC) and Railway Recruitment Board/ Railway Recruitment Cell charge examination fee from the candidates for different examinations. However, women candidates and candidates belonging to Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and Physically Handicapped category are exempted from paying examination fee.

In case, any examination is cancelled or postponed, it is re-conducted and no additional fee is charged from the candidates.

(c) There is no such proposal at present.

Vacancies in OBC category

2816. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that nine key departments have a large number of unfilled vacancies in OBC category totaling to about 11,000, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the steps taken to fill up these vacancies; and

(c) whether any time-frame has been fixed to fill up these vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) to (c) The data showing the status of details of backlog OBC vacancies, vacancies filled up and yet to be filled in 10 major Departments/Ministries are given in the Statement (*See below*).

Based on the recommendations of a Committee headed by the then Secretary, Department of Social Justice and Empowerment, Department of Personnel and Training issued instructions in November/December, 2014 to all Ministries/Departments to

constitute in-house Committee to identify backlog reserved vacancies, study of the root cause of backlog reserved vacancies, initiation of measures to remove such factors and to fill up such vacancies through Special Recruitment Drive.

As per information updated as on 31.12.2016, 10 Ministries/Departments having majority of the employees in Central Government including their Public Sector Banks/Financial Institutions, Central Public Sector Undertakings etc., reported 40,562 backlog vacancies for Other Backward Classes. Out of these, 27,027 vacancies have been filled up during the period 01.04.2012 to 31.12.2016 and 13,535 vacancies of Other Backward Classes (OBCs) remained unfilled.

Seven meetings have already been held with these 10 Ministries/Departments who have been requested to take expeditious action for filling up the remaining backlog vacancies.

Statement

Details of backlog OBC vacancies

| Ministry/Department | Other Backward Classes | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|--------------|------------------|
| | Vacancies | Filled up | Yet to be filled |
| Posts | 718 | 234 | 484 |
| Defence Production | 164 | 149 | 15 |
| Financial Services | 14455 | 13030 | 1425 |
| Atomic Energy | 1444 | 802 | 642 |
| Defence | 2707 | 1439 | 1268 |
| Railways | 2204 | 2194 | 10 |
| Revenue | 5064 | 2076 | 2988 |
| Urban Development | 692 | 95 | 597 |
| Human Resources | | | |
| Development | 1557 | 571 | 986 |
| Home Affairs | 11557 | 6437 | 5120 |
| TOTAL | 40562 | 27027 | 13535 |

Submission of immovable assets by IAS officers

2817. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of IAS officers have failed to submit details of their immovable assets to Government;