

Vacancies in Civil Services Cadres

2351. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Civil Services Cadres, especially IAS are facing a shortage of more than 1,500 posts;

(b) whether it is also a fact that only 782 vacancies have been announced by the UPSC for Civil Services Examination in 2018; and

(c) if so, the reasons for announcement of less vacancies against higher requirement since 2014, till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) The Total Authorized Strength of IAS officers is 6500 and the total number of Officers in-Position on 01.01.2017 is 5004. There is a shortage of 1496 IAS officers.

(b) The 782 vacancies of all participating services viz. IAS, IFS, IPS, Central Civil Services Group 'A' and Group 'B' in the Civil Services Examination, 2018 are on tentative basis.

(c) The occurrence of vacancies and its filling up is an ongoing process. The Government has increased annual intake of IAS officers to 180 from CSE-2012 and the same is continued in CSE-2018 also. The total advertised vacancy had varied due to low demand of other participating services.

Use of RTI for extracting private details of individuals

2352. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the Right to Information Act, conceived as a tool for common man to make Government more accountable towards administration and Governance, has in the last few years become a weapon to dig out private details of persons to settle personal scores; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) The RTI Act aims "to provide for setting out the practical regime of right to information for citizens to secure access to information under the control of public authorities, in order to promote transparency and accountability in the working of every public authority, the constitution of a Central Information Commission and State Information Commissions and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."