

5 years. In the case of (ii), they are entitled to a service pension; in addition, they have been allowed, under the orders regarding the New Ordinary Family Pension Scheme introduced from 1st January, 1964 a special gratuity equal to two months' pay. This special gratuity is not paid to married personnel, but their families will become eligible for the family pension in the event of their death in non-attributable circumstances.

(b) Permanent Regular Commissioned Officers, whose qualifying service is less than 20 years may be granted under the military rules (New Pension Code), a retiring gratuity if they have put in at least 10 years qualifying service. If their qualifying service is 20 years or over, they are entitled to a retiring pension in addition to which no gratuity is admissible. Permanent Civilian employees working in the Armed Forces Headquarters get a death-cum-retirement gratuity in addition to their pension which is at a reduced scale, under the Liberalised Pension Rules introduced in 1950 for civilian Central Government servants.

(c) JCOs (as also Other Ranks and Commissioned Officers) are not governed by the Liberalised Pension Rules, but by military rules under which no reduction has been made in the scale of pension. Accordingly, the benefit of death-cum-retirement gratuity is not allowed to them.

U.S. Scholarships for Information Officers

*437. { Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:

Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that U.S. Scholarships have been made available to some Information Officers of her Ministry; and

(b) if so, the reasons for sending Indian Journalists for training to U.S.A.?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Shrimati Indira Gandhi): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is essential that the officers of the Central Information Service who have to cater to the requirements of the varied and increasing activities of our Information Service should be well-versed in Mass Communication techniques. So far officers of this Service, since its formation, have had no training in foreign countries where these techniques have made rapid advances.

An offer of four fellowships in Mass Communication Techniques received from the United States Agency for International Development under the Indo-U.S. Technical Co-operation programme was, therefore, accepted and four officers have been sent out for training which will be of about nine months duration.

Firing by Pakistani Troops

{ Shri P. C. Borooah:
*438. { Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
Shrimati Savitri Nigam:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistani troops fired on Indian posts West of Naushera (Jammu) on the 10th September, 1964 with mortars and machine guns;

(b) if so, the number of persons killed or injured, if any; and

(c) what efforts have been made to persuade Pakistan Government to avoid such intrusions?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Y. B. Chavan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There were no casualties on either side.

(c) The U.N. Chief Military Observer has made certain proposals for controlling the activities of the armed civilians in the vicinity of the cease-fire line. Besides, the Government of