

THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

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(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

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HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Monday, 17th November, 1952

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven
of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

TECHNICAL PERSONNEL IN THE ARMY

*353. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether it is a fact that there is a dearth of technical personnel, especially electrical and mechanical engineers, in the Army?

(b) What steps are being taken to train such personnel?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) Yes, but only in respect of officers.

(b) The following steps have been taken to make up deficiencies of officers:

(1) Officers from Non-Technical Arms possessing technical qualifications have been transferred to the Technical Corps after imparting suitable training to them.

(2) Increased quota from the normal output of Regular officers from the National Defence Academy, Dehra Dun is being allotted to the Technical Corps, depending upon the availability of suitable candidates.

(3) Engineering graduates between the ages of 20-27 years are selected every year for one year's training at the National Defence Academy. On completion of this training, they are granted Permanent Regular Commission. In order to attract the talent in the country, Government have recently 266 P.S.D.

decided to offer the selected engineering graduates provisional Short Service Regular Commission during the period of training at the National Defence Academy. On grant of Permanent Regular Commission they become eligible for the grant of an antedate of their commission for a period of 2 years, including the period of provisional Short Service Regular Commission, if they possess requisite technical qualifications.

(4) Short Service Regular Commissions for a period of 7/10 years are offered to candidates of older age group of 20-40 years. Selected candidates undergo training for about 6 months at the National Defence Academy prior to the grant of Short Service Regular Commission. Such Officers are also entitled to the grant of Permanent Regular Commission, if otherwise eligible.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know which are the institutions controlled by the Defence Ministry which impart this training to personnel required by us?

Sardar Majithia: As I have already said, they get this training at the National Defence Academy.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Is this Academy alone sufficient to train the personnel that we require and make up the present deficiency within a reasonable time?

Sardar Majithia: We have started this Academy for this purpose and it is hoped that it will be sufficient.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Will Government consider the advisability of asking some industrialists to train the personnel that we require?

Sardar Majithia: Probably, there is some misunderstanding. These graduates have got their technical knowledge and they receive additional training at the National Defence Aca-

demy in matters pertaining to the Services.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Has the press interview given by our Commander-in-Chief—during which he has expressed the hope that industrialists would come to the aid of the Army in training these personnel—come to the notice of the hon. Minister?

Sardar Majithia: I have not come across it, but possibly it related to the Territorial Army.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether there is any retrenchment in the M.E.S.?

Sardar Majithia: How does this arise out of this question?

Mr. Speaker: That is what I was also wondering about.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: May I know whether the advertisement appearing in this morning's papers wanting engineering graduates for the Services is in connection with this wing of the Defence Forces?

Sardar Majithia: I am afraid I have not seen that advertisement.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether any industrialists have offered their co-operation in the matter of giving training to these engineering proached.

Sardar Majithia: I do not know how even this arises.

Mr. Speaker: It arises in this way, that the hon. Member wants to know whether any industrialist was approached.

Sardar Majithia: Not to my knowledge.

Shri T. S. A. Chettiar: May I know what is the basic qualification required—diploma or degree?

Sardar Majithia: Degree.

LAND FOR RESETTLEMENT OF RELEASED ARMY PERSONNEL

*354. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether the Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Bhopal, Mysore, Madras, Bombay, Pepsu, Punjab, and Travancore-Cochin have made over the land promised by them for the resettlement of released Army personnel?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): Yes, except the States of Bombay and PEPUSU where

the land colonisation schemes have not yet been finalised.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know the number of ex-servicemen resettled on this land so far?

Sardar Majithia: The number is 432.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know what assistance has been given by the Government for the resettlement of these ex-servicemen?

Sardar Majithia: They have been given loans. Apart from that, the scheme envisages that the lands will be developed by the Government and then given over to these ex-servicemen for their resettlement.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Is any financial assistance given by the Centre to the States concerned for the resettlement of these ex-servicemen?

Sardar Majithia: As I have already said, yes.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Are these persons those who were released after World War II or those who were released on account of the integration of the States in 1950?

Sardar Majithia: I require notice.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Are Government aware that 1500 acres of forest land earmarked for allotment to ex-Travancore and Cochin States Forces personnel in the Rani Forest Range have not so far been given over, and have Government made any enquiries about this?

Sardar Majithia: Yes, Sir. It is correct that 1500 acres of land in the Rani Range extension are there and they will be made cultivable and then made over to these personnel.

Shri Nambiar: May I know whether Government have received any complaint from the district of Trichinopoly in South India to the effect that certain lands allotted to ex-servicemen have not been made over to them?

Sardar Majithia: I have not received any complaint, but I shall look into it.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether Government are aware of any instance where these ex-servicemen were asked to pay a nominal price for the land allotted to them for resettlement?

Sardar Majithia: No, Sir. That is not correct.