

ordinary Issue of the Gazette of India on the Republic Day and on the Independence Day.

(b) Honorary ranks mentioned in categories (i) and (ii) above are granted to those persons who have rendered service of a high order to the Indian Union and who have rendered signal service to the Armed Forces or have taken special interest in fostering the development of the Armed Forces.

Honorary ranks mentioned in category (iii) (a) above are granted to JCOs who have rendered specially distinguished service, while Honorary ranks mentioned in category (iii) (b) above are granted on retirement to those JCOs and NCOs who have rendered distinguished and meritorious service.

#### **Training of N.C.C. Cadets in Mountain Warfare**

910. { **Shri Yashpal Singh:**  
**Shri Bishanchander Seth:**

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering a proposal to train N.C.C. cadets in mountain warfare;

(b) if so, when it is likely to start; and

(c) whether there is any scheme to train these cadets in weather conditions similar to those obtaining in NEFA and Ladakh?

**The Minister of Defence (Shri Y. B. Chavan):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

#### **Survey of Power and Energy Resources**

911. **Shri P. C. Borooah:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Expert Committee to make a survey of India's power and energy resources has been recently constituted; and

(b) if so, the terms of reference of the Expert Committee?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Planning and Labour and for Employment (Shri C. B. Pattabhiraman):** (a) Yes, Sirs.

(b) A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-671/63].

#### **Enquiry into reverses in NEFA and Ladakh**

{ **Shri Hem Barua:**  
**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:**

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether the enquiry into our recent reverses in NEFA and Ladakh has been initiated by now; and

(b) if so, the terms of reference of this enquiry and the personnel constituting the Enquiry Commission?

**The Minister of Defence (Shri Y. B. Chavan):** (a) The Chief of Army Staff has arranged for an appraisal being made of the fighting in NEFA. No other enquiry is being held.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Yol Khas**

913. **Shri Hem Raj:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that the lands of the Yol Khas have been taken in lease by the Government from the Zamindars of Yol and the rent is fixed permanently with them;

(b) Whether it is also a fact that the land rent of the plots leased to the shopkeepers of Brigade Bazar by Government has been raised from Re. 1 and Rs. 2 per plot to Rs. 10 and Rs. 20 per mensem; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of Defence (Shri Y. B. Chavan):** (a) Yes, Sir. Land measuring about 770 Acres at Yol Khaḡ was requisitioned in 1842 for Prisoners of War Camp. Annual recurring compensation was being paid regularly to the landowners until the date from which it was decided to acquire it.

(b) Yes, Sir. Rent of open plots of land occupied by the shopkeepers of Brigade Bazar has been raised to Rs. 10 P.M.

(c) The rent fixed earlier was too low. The rent now fixed is in accordance with the rules and has been enforced with effect from the date of acquisition, viz., 16th April, 1962.

#### **Employees of Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Boards**

**914. Shri Hem Raj:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in confirming the employees of the Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen Boards and by what time it will be finalised;

(b) whether it is a fact that formerly the posts of welfare workers existed in these boards, but they have been dropped some years back; and

(c) whether Government propose to revive those posts due to the heavy work which has fallen on these boards due to the emergency?

**The Minister of Defence (Shri Y. B. Chavan):** (a) Two States viz., Rajasthan and Assam have agreed to the proposals to make the District Soldiers' and Airmen's Boards permanent. Other States are still considering the proposal.

(b) Posts of Welfare Workers existed in some Boards in a few States, but they were subsequently abolished except in one State.

(c) The matter is under consideration.

#### **Military Pensions**

**915. Shri Hem Raj:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether the payment of military pensions is made by the Military Audit employees themselves instead of the postal department in the Districts of Punjab plains i.e., Amritsar etc.; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to extend that system to the hilly districts of the Punjab where there is great concentration of such persons inhabited by the Dogras?

**The Minister of Defence (Shri Y. B. Chavan):** (a) In the Punjab, the Defence Accounts Department makes payment of pensions to Defence pensioners only in Amritsar District through a Pension Paymaster.

(b) No, Sir. This question has already been examined and it has been decided not to extend the system to the hilly areas of the Punjab as it was unlikely to benefit the pensioners. Payment through military paymasters can be undertaken only in towns where there are treasuries and sub-treasuries. For instance in Kangra District alone, pensions are at present paid through 8 Treasuries/Sub Treasuries and about 148 Post Offices. If payments were made through Pension Paymasters it would be possible to do so only at 8 towns where treasuries/sub-treasuries exist.

#### **Pension to Watch and Ward Staff of Army Ordnance Corps**

**916. Shri Hem Raj:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ex-servicemen who have served in the Watch and Ward Establishment of the Army Ordnance Corps and who have