

**Expenditure on Army/Civilians Officers of Military Engineer Service**

1556 SHRI HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether expenditure on an army officer posted to M.E.S. is more than the civilian officer of the equivalent rank;

(b) if so, what is the ratio of such expenditure on pay allowances, house rent, leave and expenditure incurred on their specialised studies;

(c) whether there is any proposal to increase the ratio of civilian officers in M.E.S. so as to reduce administrative expenditure; and

Scales of pay in respect of Military/Civilian Officers of M.E.S. (equivalent rank):—

**Military Officers**

*Captain*—Acting & substantive rank—

Rs. 630—40—990

*Maj*—Acting rank :—

Rs. 840—40/2—880 (further increments as for substantive rank shown below)

Substantive rank—

Rs. 920—960—1000—1040—1050—1050—50/2—1300.

*Lt. Col.* Acting Rank—

Rs. 1100 (further increments as for Substantive rank shown below).

Substantive rank—

Rs. 1300—50/2—1500.

**Allowances**

Dearness Allowance and Compensatory (City) Allowance are the same for both Service and Civilian Officers. In addition, Service Officers get kit Maintenance Allowance, Special Disturbance Allowance, Out Fit Allowance and Qualification Pay, if admissible.

(d) if so, the nature thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, the expenditure on an Army officer of a substantive rank posted to M.E.S. is more than that of a civilian officer of an equivalent rank, but the maximum of the scale of pay of a Superintending Engineer is Rs. 1,800 while the maximum pay of a substantive Lt. Colonel is Rs. 1,500.

Differences in the scales of pay, allowances, houses rent, leave and expenditure incurred on specialised studies between Military Officers and Civilian Officers of Military Engineer Service is as follows:—

**Civilian Officers**

*Asst. Executive Engineer*

Rs. 400—400—450—30—600—35—670—EB—35—950

*Executive Engineer*

Rs. 700—40—1100—50/2—1250

*Superintending Engineer*

Rs. 1300—60—1600—100—1800

**House Rent**

In the case of Service Officers, provision of accommodation is a condition of service but not so in the case of civilian officers.

In the case of Service Officers, the licence fee charged is 5 per cent of pay (upto the rank of Brigadier and

10 per cent in the case of General Officers), or assessed licence fee, whichever is less.

In the case of Civilian Officers, the licence fee is 10 per cent of pay or assessed licence fee, whichever is less.

**Leave**

Service Officers are entitled to a casual leave of 20 days a year, an annual leave of 60 days in a year and furlough of two months for every three calendar years which will be non-accumulative.

Civilian officers get 12 days casual leave, 2 restricted holidays and earned leave at the rate of 1/11th of the period of duty.

**Expenditure on Specialised Studies**

The specialised studies granted to Military Officers posted to the MES is restricted only to works attachment for a duration of approximately 3 months. Only those officers who are posted to the M.E.S. for the first time as Majors are granted this training. Officers who are posted initially as Captains are not given this works attachment. All other specialised training for works appointment is given to the civilians also such as Works Management Courses where on each course 20 Civilian officers and 10 Military Officers are given a course in MES procedure training.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

**Ratio of Military and Civilian Officers of Military Engineer Service**

1557. SHRI HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ratio between civilian officers and army officers upto the rank of Superintending Engineer in M.E.S. is 50 per cent;

(b) if so, whether all the posts of civilian officers upto the rank of Superintending Engineers have been filled up upto 50 per cent; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The present strength of civilian officers in the grades of Superintending Engineer and Executive Engineer is less than 50 per cent of the total strength in each grade. Necessary action for drawing up a panel for promotion of Executive Engineers to the grade of Superintending Engineer is being taken in consultation with the UPSC. For nearly four years now, it has not been possible to effect promotions from the grade of Assistant Executive Engineer to the grade of Executive Engineer, since the relative seniority of direct recruits and departmental promotees could not be fixed due to certain cases pending in law courts.

**Allotment of Petrol Pump and Cooking Gas Agencies to Widows of Army Officers**

1558. SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of petrol pumps and cooking gas agencies given to the widows of army officers under the scheme of rehabilitating them; and

(b) whether it has come to the notice of Government that these facilities have been got benami by some other persons and the widows are only getting small fraction of the profits from such agencies?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI J. B. PATNAIK): (a) 3 petrol pumps and 53 gas agencies have been allotted so far.

(b) Two cases suspected of benami alliances came to the notice of Government. Prompt action was taken to