

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) Since, in Army, due to historical reasons and on grounds of tradition, certain class compositions are continuing. There is reservation and weightage in recruitment, for members of certain castes only, on the basis of the existing class compositions. In the Navy and Air Force as there is no class composition, there is no reservation or weightage for any caste.

(b) There is no distinction between martial and non-martial races for recruitment to the Armed Forces. The policy of the Government is to provide equal opportunities to all citizens for enrolment in the Armed Forces.

(c) Does not arise.

Mining Operations at Ramgiri Gold Mines, Anantapur District, Andhra Pradesh

5080. SHRI P. ANTONY REDDI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since started mining operations at Ramgiri Gold Mines, Anantapur District, Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) what are the reasons for the delay?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUBODH HANSDA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Mining operations cannot be undertaken until the exploratory phase is completed.

Drilling Operations for Diamonds at Vajrakarur, Andhra Pradesh

5081. SHRI P. ANTONY REDDY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government are still carrying out drilling operations for diamonds at Vajrakarur, Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) what is the value of diamonds found from the drilling operations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUBODH HANSDA): (a) No, Sir.

(b). Does not arise.

Instructions Re: Pay Fixation and Seniority of Released Emergency Commissioned and Short Service Commissioned Officers

5082. SHRI JAGANNATHRAO JOSHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether instructions were issued to the State Government concerns including the Public Undertakings to enforce special benefits regarding reservations of vacancies and fixation of pay and seniority for released Emergency Commissioned and Short Service Commissioned Officers;

(b) the outlines of the instructions in this regard and dates when they were issued;

(c) which Public Undertakings have implemented them fully, which partially and which have ignored them as yet;

(d) what are the steps proposed to see that each Undertakings implements fully all the instructions issued; and

(e) what is the position in this regard in Undertakings owned by various states?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) No instructions were issued to the State Government concerns including the Public Sector Undertakings to grant special benefits regarding reservation of vacancies and fixation of pay and seniority for released Emergency Commissioned and Short Service Commissioned Officers. However, the Public Sector Undertakings, under the Central Government, were advised to consider the feasibility of reserving posts for these officers and also to accord benefits regarding seniority and fixation of pay as are admissible on employment under the Ministries and Departments of the Central Government. Some public sector undertakings