

modified the scales of pay recommended by the Second Pay Commission.

Himachal Pradesh Secretariat at Simla

1966. Shri Virbhadra Singh: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to rebuild the Himachal Pradesh Secretariat at Simla which was destroyed by a fire some years back; and

(b) if so, when the work is likely to be taken in hand?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) and (b). The question whether or not a new building should be constructed for Himachal Pradesh Secretariat, is being examined.

Pension to Territorial Army Officers

1967. Shri Birendra Bahadur Singh: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Territorial Army Officers are entitled to pension benefits; and

(b) if not, whether Government propose to give pension benefits to such Territorial Army personnel who have put in more than 20 years of full paid service?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): (a) and (b). Territorial Army is not intended to provide a full time career. It is primarily for those who are already in employment and can devote their spare time for Military training with the object of serving the country in an emergency. Entitlement of pensionary benefits for Territorial Army Officers has, therefore, not been worked out.

Tribal Blocks

1968. Shri H. C. Soy: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that it has been emphasised by the various study

groups and the Dhebar Commission, that as far as possible, maximum number of tribal blocks must be manned either by tribal officers and staff or by non-tribals specially trained for working in such blocks;

(b) if so, which of the States have made any significant and definite progress in the matter; and

(c) in how many tribal blocks the Block Development Officers are tribal officers and how many are officered by non-tribal officers?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) The Study Team on Social Welfare and Welfare of Backward Classes of the Committee on Plan Projects and the Committee on Special Multipurpose Tribal Blocks (Elwin Committee) have recommended that, as far as possible, tribals should be appointed on the staff of the Tribal Development Blocks. The Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes Commission have also referred to the desirability of ensuring that tribals are appointed on the T.D. Block Staff. The Elwin Committee further recommended that suitable orientation training should be given to the staff working in Tribal Development Blocks.

(b) and (c). A Tribal Orientation and Study Centre has been set up at Ranchi to impart training in tribal life and culture to the Block Development Officers, Extension Officers (Agriculture), Social Education Organisers and Mukhya Sevikas working in the Tribal Development Blocks in various States/Union Territories. Arrangements are being made for the training of other categories of personnel. Grants are also given to the Tata Institute of Social Sciences for imparting similar training to Tribal Welfare Officers and Block Development Officers, who are sent there by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. Precise information regarding the progress made in appointing the tribals on Tribal Development Block staff and the number of tribals and non-tribals