

Ministry, has rejected a large number of the Emergency Commissioned Officers appearing before it for Permanent Commission;

(b) whether fresh recruitment to Short Service Regular Commission is taking place, while the Emergency Commissioned Officers are being retrenched; and

(c) whether Emergency Commissioned Officers, who were promoted from the ranks, are being asked to rejoin their ranks in their pre-promotion positions ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Emergency Commissioned Officers, risen from the Army Ranks, have been made eligible for the grant of Permanent Commission in the Special List Cadre in addition to the General Duty Cadre. Those who fail to get selected for the Permanent Commissions have got the option to revert back to their original ranks, if they so desire. This position has been made clear to them.

REFRESHMENTS FOR N.C.C. CADETS

147. SHRI ONKAR LAL BERWA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that sufficient refreshments are not given to the N.C.C. Cadets of the Polytechnics and other colleges in Delhi after parades;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any uniform scale has been prescribed for such refreshments; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a) to (d). In 1963 the Government of India recommended for adoption by State Governments a refreshment allowance of 20 paise per cadet per hour of parade. In practice State Governments/Union Territories have sanctioned an allowance ranging between 19 paise and 30 paise per parade. The Delhi Administration have fixed 20 paise per parade for all colleges in Delhi, presumably considering that this would adequately cover the cost of necessary refreshment.

ACQUISITION OF LAND IN MADHYA PRADESH

148. SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the time by which possession will be taken of the land acquired near Bordha in Hoshangabad District of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether the villages around the acquired area will also be got vacated;

(c) if so, whether the people of the surrounding villages will be paid compensation for the dislocation to be caused to them; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a) Though a precise estimate is not possible in such cases, the present estimate is that it will take about a year.

(b) No, Sir.

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

EMERGENCY COMMISSIONED OFFICERS

149. SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Emergency Commissioned Officers so far discharged;

(b) the number of Emergency Commissioned Officers who are likely to be discharged in the next six months :

(c) how many of the above have since been provided employment elsewhere;

(d) whether Government made any efforts to provide employment to the rest of the discharged Emergency Commissioned Officers as Security Officers in public sector and private sector undertakings; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a) 1526 (excluding medical and Veterinary officers). This number includes *inter-alia* 37 officers whose services were terminated on account of inefficiency or on disciplinary grounds, 38 officers who resigned and 270 officers who were non-optees *i.e.* who were not willing to continue in the Army although eligible to apply for Permanent Commission.

(b) The release of Emergency Commissioned Officers who are not absorbed as Permanent Commissioned Officers is being carried out over a period of 4 years from 1967—70. The release schedule for 1967 has been completed except for a few officers whose cases are still under consideration. The release schedule for 1968 will start in April next.

(c) Alternative employment has been secured for 662 released Emergency Commissioned Officers so far. 943 Emergency Commissioned Officers are being retained in the Army as Permanent Commissioned Officers.

(d) Yes, Sir. Government have approached them for the absorption of as many released Emergency Commissioned Officers as possible in the various appointments under them for which they are suitable.

(e) Does not arise.

FORCED LANDING OF I.A.F. PLANE AT DAMASCUS

151. SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the reason why I.A.F. plane was forced to land in Damascus in early October, 1967;

(b) whether I.A.F. planes were forced to land previously also in Syria;

(c) if so, how many times; and

(d) whether such force-landings take place in other countries also ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a) to (d). An I.A.F. aircraft was sent on 4th October, 1967 on a proving flight in connection with the Prime Minister's visit to East European countries. The requisite flight and diplomatic clearance was not obtained from Syria before entering that country. In accordance with the usual practice, in such circumstances, the aircraft made a landing in Damascus at the request of the Syrian authorities. After refuelling, the IAF aircraft took off on its onward flight. Over 10 years ago, an IAF aircraft was required to land in Syria for want of clearance.

Foreign aircraft transiting through the air space of a country without flight clearance may be required to land according to international practice.

INCLUSION OF CHITTAGONG HILL TRACT AND GARO BELT INTO INDIAN TERRITORY

152. SHRIMATI JYOTSNA CHANDA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any representation was made before the Radcliffe Commission and the Bagge Tribunal on behalf of the inhabitants of the Chittagong Hill tract and the Garo belt of the Mymensingh district for the incorporation of their areas into the Union of India; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to safeguard their interests ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b). Necessary information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

DRAFTSMEN IN ALL INDIA RADIO

153. SHRI ABDUL GHANI DAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Draftsmen in the All India Radio, who are drawing the maximum of their pay scales;

(b) whether any representation has been received to create the post of Selection Grade Draftsman in All India Radio; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon so far ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. K. SHAH) : (a) Two.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The proposal to create posts of Selection Grade Draftsman in All India Radio is however under consideration.

INTERNAL COMMITTEE OF A.I.R.

154. SHRI ABDUL GHANI DAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 709 on the 20th May, 1967 and state :