

LOWER FORMATION STAFF OF ARMY HEADQUARTERS

3912. SHRI S. M. JOSHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Lower Formation Staff employed in Army Headquarters on permanent basis, are denied the grades and pay scales applicable to AFHQ Staff Army Headquarters; and

(b) the steps Government propose to take to remove the disparities between the grades and pay scales of AFHQ staff and the low formation staff working in Army Headquarters?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M. R. KRISHNA): (a) The lower Formation Staff are employed in Armed Forces Headquarters only on a tenure basis. During their tenure they continue to be governed by the grades and scales of pay applicable to them in their own cadre which are different from those of Armed Forces Headquarters cadre.

(b) All Government offices in India function at 3 levels—Secretariat, Attached Office and Subordinate Office. The grade structure, the proportions in the different grades, scales of pay and terms and conditions of recruitment are different at these levels except that the pay scales are, more or less, the same in the lowest grades of Lower Division Clerks and Upper Division Clerks. This is also the position in the three levels of the Ministry of Defence, the Armed Forces Headquarters and the lower formations.

CIVILIAN CLERICAL STAFF IN DEFENCE INSTALLATIONS

3913. SHRI S. M. JOSHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Civilian Clerical Staff employed in various Defence installations and lower formations are being denied the benefits of the proposed AFHQ Civil Service Scheme; and

(b) the steps Government propose to take to improve the grades and pay scales of lower formation staff before the implementation of AFHQ Service Scheme in view of the fact that there is already resentment against the non-application of AFHQ scales of pay and grades to lower formation staff and the disparity in the grades (including ratio and proportion between different grades) and pay scales applicable to them vis-a-vis AFHQ staff?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M. R. KRISHNA): (a) The AFHQ Civil Service Scheme applies only to the non-departmental civilian officials (Gazetted and Non-Gazetted) of Armed Forces Headquarters and Inter-Service Organisations under the Ministry of Defence. The civilian clerical staff employed in various lower formations do not come under its purview.

(b) The question of improvement of grades and scales of pay of clerical staff in the lower formations before the implementation of the Armed Forces Headquarters Civil Service Scheme does not arise. All Government offices in India function at three levels—Secretariat, Attached Office and Subordinate Office. The grade structure, the proportions in the different grades, scales of pay and terms and conditions of recruitment are different at these levels except that the pay scales are, more or less, the same in the lowest grades of Lower Division Clerks and Upper Division Clerks. This is also the position in the three levels of the Ministry of Defence, the Armed Forces Hqrs. and the lower formations.

CHINESE PROPAGANDA IN NEPAL

3914. SHRI HIMATSINGKA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the persistent anti-Indian propaganda carried on by the Chinese elements in Nepal;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken up the matter with the Nepal