

S.No.	Category	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
7.	Gallantry Awardees (Police)	—	243	687
8.	Presidents/Secretaries of National Sports Federation of India	—	46	46
9.	Non-official members of Hindi Salahakar Samiti	27	27	37
(B) CHEQUE PASSES				
1.	Cheque Passes under discretionary powers	3273	6161	4018
		(7914 persons)	(15,483 persons)	(11,473 persons)
2.	Cheque Passes to licensed Porters (Coolie) per year		40,000	

(c) Since the passes are complimentary in nature, the cost thereof is not computed.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Setting up of Steel Plants in Bihar

1417. SHRI PRABHASH CHANDRA TIWARI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of steel plants proposed to be set up in public/private sector in Bihar, location-wise;

(b) the progress made in regard to each project; and

(c) the details of the public/private sector companies those are setting up these steel plants in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) to (c) Under the New Industrial Policy announced in July, 1991, iron & steel has been exempted from the list of industries reserved for the Public Sector and also exempted from the purview of compulsory licensing. No industrial licence is, therefore, required to set up iron & steel production/processing facilities, save for certain locational restrictions. Entrepreneurs are, therefore, free to set up such facilities anywhere in the country based on their commercial judgement. As per available information, the Union Government do not propose to set up a steel plant in Bihar nor is there any proposal to set up a steel plant by the private sector in Bihar.

Manufacturing of Rail Engines/Coaches/Wagons

1418. SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether rail engines, coaches and wagons are being manufactured with the foreign assistance in the country; and

(b) if so, the names of the factories and the production capacity thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Pensionary Benefits for Ex-Servicemen

1419. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received various representations for increasing the pensionary benefits to ex-servicemen;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have since appointed a Committee in this regard; and

(d) if so, the terms and reference thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the representations the following three major demands have been raised:-

(i) Acceptance of the demand related to 'One Rank One Pension' or as an alternative grant of One Time Increase (OTI) in pension to bridge the gap between pre and post 1-1-1996 retirees.

(ii) Grant of full pension (which is presently calculated on the basis of 33 years of service) on retirement/discharge from service irrespective of the length of service.

(iii) Making applicable the 5th Pay Commission's recommendations with regard to disability pension with retrospective effect to cover the past disabled pensioners also.

(c) No, Sir.