

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2717  
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2001  
HONORARY RANKS TO DEFENCE PERSONNEL  
RASA SINGH RAWAT

**Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) the criterion followed in for providing honorary ranks to the soldiers/officers in the army;
- (b) the details of pensionary benefits provided to the persons holding the honorary ranks, after their retirement;
- (c) the reasons for not providing pensionary benefits to the Hawaldars holding honorary rank of Nayab Subedar on the lines of the regular Nayab Subedars;
- (d) whether such facility was already available before the implementation of Fifth Pay Commission report; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for its discontinuance?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (e): A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2717  
15.3.2001

Honorary Ranks are granted in the regular Army under the provisions of Defence Services Regulations, to the rank of Honorary Captain (Active list), Honorary Lieutenant (Active list), Honorary Lieutenant, Honorary Subedar Major, Honorary Subedar, Honorary Naib Subedar, Honorary Rank of Havildars and Naiks (On Retirement).

Criteria for grant of Honorary Ranks

Army Regulations have laid down the following criteria for grant of various Honorary Ranks:-

1. Honorary Captain and Lieutenant on active list

As per para 177 of Regulations for the Army, Junior Commissioned Officers (JCOs), who have rendered specially distinguished service, and who are serving, in the Regular Army, may be granted honorary commission as honorary officers in the rank of Captain/Lieutenant. The above nomination will be made by the Chief of Army Staff twice each year on the occasion of Republic Day and Independence Day. The ratio for each occasion will be as under:-

- (a) Honorary Captains - 1 for every 4 Honorary Lieutenants
- (b) Honorary Lieutenants - 12 for every 1000 JCOs.

2. Honorary Rank of Captain, Lieutenant, Subedar Major and Subedar on Retirement

Under the provisions of Para 179 of Army Regulations, 1987, all eligible JCOs are granted one rank higher than the rank held by them at the time of retirement, within one year of their becoming non effective. There is no fixed quota for these awards. Accordingly, all eligible JCOs are granted one rank higher than the rank held by them at the time of retirement.

3. Honorary Rank of Naib Subedar to Havildars on Retirement.

Under the provisions of Para 180 of Army Regulations, 1987, Havildars who are recipients of gallantry or meritorious awards (MSM) are granted honorary rank of Naib Subedar on retirement within one year of their becoming non effective, twice a year, i.e. on Republic Day and Independence Day. There is no ceiling fixed for recipients of gallantry or meritorious awards (MSM). In addition to these, Army is authorised 500 vacancies of Honorary Naib Subedar on Republic Day and Independence Day for those who are recipients of Long Service and Good Conduct Medal and Meritorious Service Certificate Holders (MSCH). These have been allotted to Arms and Services, based on strength of NCOs, in order of seniority and calculated on the basis of their service as Havildar in the Substantive capacity.

#### 4. Honorary Rank of Havildars and Naiks

Under the provisions of para 181 and 182, honorary rank of Havildars/Naiks will be bestowed to 20% Naiks/Sepoys retiring annually in the last year of their colour service. The award is being given on seniority-cum-merit basis by the respective Record Offices.

#### Pensionary Benefits

(i) OFFICERS:- No enhanced/additional pensionary benefits are granted to officers granted honorary ranks during service or after retirement.

(ii) JCOs:- JCOs may be granted Hony ranks of Lt/Capt while on active service or after retirement. If they are granted honorary rank, as above, while on active service, they are granted pensionary benefits, based on their fixed pay for the rank held at the time of retirement. Presently, fixed Pay of Hony Lt is 10500/- and Hony Capt is 10850/-. If the Hony rank is granted after retirement, no addition in pensionary benefits is admissible to them i.e. they will get the pension of the substantive rank, held by them, at the time of retirement.

(iii) Havildars, Naiks and Sepoys:-

- Sepoys, granted Hony rank of Naik during their last year of service, are granted pension for the substantive rank of Naik or equivalent service reduced by one rupee.

- Naiks granted, Hony rank of Havildar during their last year of service, are granted pension, as admissible to Substantive Havildar or equivalent service less Re. 1/- p.m.

- Havildars granted Hony rank of Naib Subedar, at the time of retirement, are entitled to an additional pension at the rate of Rs. 100/- p.m. with effect from 1st October 1991 over and above their pension for the rank of Havildar.

(iv) - JCOs/OR, granted honorary ranks after retirement, are not entitled to any addition in their pension. This aspect has been considered by Ministry of Defence and the matter was also referred to the V Central Pay Commission (V CPC), who have not made any recommendation in this regard.

- Havildars granted Hony rank of Nb. Sub., at the time of retirement, are entitled to an additional pension @ Rs. 100/- p.m. with effect from 1st October 1991 over and above their pension for the rank of Havildar.

- The additional pension of Rs. 100/- to Havildar, granted Hony rank of Naib Subedar, has been granted w.e.f. 1st October 1991 and has not been withdrawn after the implementation of recommendations of V CPC.