GOVERNMENT OF INDIA DEFENCE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2677 ANSWERED ON:05.12.2002 ALLOTMENT OF ARMS **RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY**

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the existing norms for allotment of arms on out of turn basis by the Government;
- (b) the kinds of arms/weapons are given by the Government on out of turn basis;
- (c) the number of arms/weapons have been allotted by the Government on out of turn basis during last three years and current year 2002:
- (d) the total number of applications for allotment of arms/weapons on out of turn basis received by the Government during last three years and current year so far, year-wise;
- (e) the number of applications have been rejected for allotment of arms and sanctioned for allotment of arms during the above mentioned period: and
- (f) the reasons for rejection of applications in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

- (a) For out of turn allotment of Non-prohibited Bore Arms a Committee was set up in the Ministry of Defence in 1996-97. Norms for allotment have evolved over a period of time. The Committee scrutinises all applications (in the prescribed proforma along withcopy of valid Arms licence) received from the individuals and makes recommendations for allotment of weapon on out-of-turn basis. As per existing norms, out of turn allotment of Non Prohibited Bore Arms to individuals is considered on the basis of threat perception to the applicants based on the information/evidence furnished. The cases of higher dignitaries e.g. Ministers of Union/States, MPs/Ex MPs, MLAs / Ex MLAs, Sr. Members of Judiciary, Sr. Government Officials/Officers of Armed Forces/Police etc. are considered by the Committee on the basis of assumed threat to their lives. Besides this, out of turn allotment of Rifles is considered by the Committee in respect of Armed Forces/Public Personnel who intend to seek re-employment as Security Guards after retirement. It has also been decided now that an individual who already holds a weapon and requests for allotment of another weapon on out of turn basis would not be entitled for another weapon on out of turn basis. Allotment of weapons is also considered to Central / State Government Organisations, Public Sector Undertakings etc. on out of turn basis.
- (b) The Ministry of Defence allots the following types of Non Prohibited Bore Arms/Weapons on out of turn basis:
- 0.32 Revolver
- 0.22 Revolver
- 0.315 Rifle
- 0.22 Rifle
- (c) The number of out of turn allotments of arms/weapons made to the individuals during the last three years and the current year (2002) is as follows:

Year Number of allotments

- 1999 466
- 2000 667
- 2001 490
- 2002

(d) The total number of applications received from individuals for out of turn allotment of arms/weapons during the last 3 years and the current year (2002) is as follows:

Year Number of applications received

1999 1001
2000 1411
2001 1656
2002 1001

Total 5069

- (e) The total number of cases rejected for allotment of arms/weapons on out of turn basis during the above period is 3046 and the number of cases recommended is 1900. The cases now pending are 123.
- (f) There was no convincing evidence of threat to the applicants and in some cases the applicants already possessed a weapon.