

Rehabilitation of Ex-servicemen in Haryana

1843. SHRI NARAIN SINGH CHAUDAHARI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ex-servicemen in Haryana and the steps taken by the Government for their rehabilitation and welfare;

(b) whether any complaints have been received from these ex-servicemen regarding pension;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d). As per the information received from the Government of Haryana, the approximate number of ex-Servicemen in Haryana is 2.51 lakhs.

There is a comprehensive package of resettlement and welfare measures for the ex-servicemen. The Central Government has provided reservation for ex-Servicemen in Group 'C' and Group 'D' posts in the Central Government departments as well as Public Sector Undertakings, including the Nationalised Banks. Defence Services personnel, who have been disabled in war or in peace-time and whose disability is attributable to military service, are accorded Priority-I. In addition, Haryana Government has reserved 5% posts in Class-I/II, 17% posts in class-III/IV in all State Government Departments, semi-Government agencies and their public Sector Undertakings, for ex-Servicemen.

A number of Central schemes provide self-employment opportunities to ex-Servicemen. These include the SEMFEX-I Scheme which provides Financial assis-

tance for setting up small industrial projects; the SEMFEX-II Scheme to take up gainful farm and non-farm activities in rural areas; SEMFEX-III Scheme to farm and non-farm activities in rural areas, allotment of Petroleum agencies; allotment of Unit Trust of India agencies etc. Ex-Servicemen are authorised free medical facilities in Military Hospitals and canteen facilities at the nearest CSD Canteens. 75% concession in rail fare for travel in second class is given to war widows. Recipients of gallantry awards are given 50% concession for air travel in domestic sector and rail travel in second class. Financial assistance for construction of houses and marriage of daughters is given to war widows, war disabled and attributable peace-time casualties by the State Government and the Kendriya Sainik Board. In addition ex-Servicemen and their widows, who are in penury, are given Financial assistance out of the welfare funds at the disposal of the Ministry of Defence and the Rajya Sainik Boards. Grants are also given for special medical treatment.

The Ministry of Defence has special Pension Grievances Cell to deal with the complaints of ex-Servicemen regarding pension and other related matters. Prompt action is taken by this Cell on the complaints received and replies sent to the complainants.

Reimbursement of payments by R.B.I

1344. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. HBONSHLE:
PROF. K.V. THOMAS:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve bank of India has stopped reimbursement of payments to exports against advices of Bank for Foreign Economic Affairs, Moscow;