

**COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
(1999-2000)**

THIRTEENTH LOK SABHA

FIRST REPORT

(DEMANDS OF EX-SERVICEMEN)

(Presented to Lok Sabha on 11.5.2000)



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

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**COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON
GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES*
(1998-99)**

Chairman

Shri E. Ahamed

Members

2. Shri Amrik Singh Aliwal
3. Shri Mohd. Ali Ashraf Fatmi
4. Shri Vijay Goel
5. Shri Tarun Gogoi
6. Shri Ganga Ram Koli
7. Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal
8. Shri Rupchand Pal
9. Shri Hari Kewal Prasad
10. Shri A. Venkatarami Reddy
11. Shri Dileep Sanghani
12. Shri A Siddaraju
13. Shri Sartaj Singh
- **14. Dr. Sunguna Kumari Chelia Melia
- ***15. Shri Uttamrao Deorao Patil

Secretariat

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| 1. | Dr. A.K. Pandey | - Additional Secretary |
| 2. | Shri P.D.T. Achary | - Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Shri K. Chakraborty | - Deputy Secretary |
| 3. | Ms. J.C. Namchyho | - Assistant Director |

* The Committee was nominated by the Speaker w.e.f. August 6, 1998 vide Para No.553 of Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II dated August 6, 1998

** Nominated to the Committee on August 20, 1998 as published vide para No. 585 of Lok Sabha Bulletin-Part II, dated August 20, 1998 vice, 1998 Shri Arjun Charan Sethi resigned.

*** Nominated to the Committee on December 3, 1998 as published vide para No. 768 of Lok Sabha Bulletin-Part II, dated December 3, 1998 vice Shri Prithviraj D. Chavan resigned.

**COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON
GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES***
(1999-2000)

Chairman

Dr. S. Venugopal

Members

2. Shri E. Ahamed
3. Shri Haribhai Chaudhary
4. Shri Padam Sen Choudhry
5. Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi
6. Adv. Uttamrao Dhikale
7. Shri Brahma Nand Mandal
8. Shri Sudarsana E.M. Natchiappan
9. Shri Rupchand Pal
10. Shri Ravindra Kumar Pandey
11. Shri Sukhdeo Paswan
12. Dr. Prasanna Kumar Patasani
13. Shri Jitendra Prasada
14. Shri Maheshwar Singh
15. Shri Manoj Sinha

Secretariat

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| 1. | Dr. A.K. Pandey | - | Additional Secretary |
| 2. | Shri P.D.T. Achary | - | Joint Secretary |
| 3. | Shri K. Chakraborty | - | Deputy Secretary |
| 4. | Ms. J.C. Namchoy | - | Assistant Director |

* The Committee was nominated by the Speaker w.e.f. December 28,1999 vide Para No.327 of Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II dated December 28, 1999

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman of the Committee on Government Assurances having been authorised by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Report of the Committee on Government Assurances.

The Committee (1999-2000) was constituted on December 28, 1999.

At their sittings held on May 4, 2000, considered and adopted the First Report.

The observations/recommendations of the Committee are contained in this Report.

The Committee wish to express their thanks to the officials of the Ministry of Defence for their co-operation. The Committee also accord appreciation to the Secretariat staff/officers for the services rendered by them to the Committee in finalisation of this Report.

NEW DELHI;
May 5, 2002
Vaisakha 15, 1922(Saka)

DR. S. VENUGOPAL
Chairman
Committee on Government Assurances

PREFACE

A soldier becomes an ex-servicemen after his retirement or being disabled due to injuries suffered in the front or on account of health reasons in pursuance of which he is no longer found eligible to serve in the armed forces. His nightmare begins the moment he is out of service. Inexperienced and new to the civilian trades and half of his career lying ahead, the soldier finds himself in a predicament of which only a few of us are aware. Thousands of defence personnel retire from service every year and bulk of them do not qualify for pension. As to become eligible for pension, a stipulated period of service is required. The soldier is hardpressed from all sides; he has to maintain a family with the meagre amount left with him. Life expectancy has increased and he has to traverse a long road, dark and uncertain. The total number of ex-servicemen registered in the country with various Rajya Sainik Boards, Zila Sainik Parishads as on date is about 15,44,600 and out of them only 3,06,032 have been registered for employment assistance.

The plight of ex-servicemen has seized the attention of both the electronic media and the Government. The Kargil episode has roused all concerned and there is a concerted move to initiate appropriate steps in the direction of rehabilitation of ex-servicemen and war widows. The Government assured the House on 15th March, 1995 in reply to an Unstarred question that a Committee constituted to look into the demands of ex-servicemen have already given their recommendations and some of the recommendations have been accepted and remainder parts are under examination of Union and State Governments. Five years have passed since then, and some parts of the recommendations are yet to be implemented. Representatives of Ministry of Defence were, therefore, summoned before the Committee with a view to clarifying the position further and inform the Committee about the reasons for delay in the fulfillment of the rest of the recommendations. Their written as well as oral evidence have been carefully shifted.

The study of the facts of this case and the conclusions based thereon are recorded in the succeeding paragraphs.

CHAPTER I

QUESTION AND ASSURANCES

1.1 On March 15, 1995, Prof. Ashok Anandrao Deshmukh, MP addressed the following Unstarred Question No. 429 to the Prime Minister:-

- “(a) whether the High Level Empowered Committee constituted to review the difficulties faced by Armed Forces Pensioners and the Committee constituted to consider demands of ex-servicemen other than those relating to pensions have submitted their recommendations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government thereon?”

1.2 In reply to the above question, the then Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence (Shri Mallikarjun) stated as follows:-

“The High Level Empowered Committee (HLEC) on improvement in the retirement benefits of pre-1986 Defence pensioner submitted its report of December, 1991. The HLEC recommended grant of One Time Increase (OTI) in pension of certain categories of pre-1986 Defence pensioners. The recommendations of the HLEC were accepted by the Government and necessary orders in implementation thereof were issued on 16.3.1992.

The Committee on remainder Problems of Ex-servicemen had been set up to examine demands of ex-servicemen other than those relating to pensions. The report of the Committee has been received. The Committee recommended 22 demands and partly recommended 10 demands. Of these, 9 recommendations as in Annexure-I have been accepted and implemented. Four recommendations in Annexure-II have not been accepted. Ten recommendations concerning the State Governments or other Ministries/Departments have been referred to them for consideration and implementation. Nine recommendations are under consideration of the Ministry of Defence.”

1.3 The above reply to the question was treated as an assurance and was required to be implemented by the Ministry of Defence by 14.6.95 i.e. within three months of the date of assurance given by the Minister.

1.4 As the assurance remained unfulfilled, the Committee on Government Assurances requested the Ministry of Defence to send an updated information. While furnishing the information on October 16, 1996, the Ministry of Defence requested for dropping of the assurances relating to the following demands on the plea that these demands related to major policy issues requiring consultation with the various Ministries/Departments like Ministry of Home Affairs, DOP&T and Ministry of Finance:-

- (1) Lateral induction of Armed Forces personnel in the Central/State Governments;

(2) Assured Employment upto age of 58 years; and

(3) Raising the retirement age limit in respect of JCOs/Ors.

1.5 In addition, the Ministry of Defence requested for dropping the assurance on the plea that certain recommendations relating to various concessions/benefits are extended by the State Governments and it was not possible for the Central Government to issue any directions to the State Governments.

1.6 At their sitting held on 1 September 1998, the Committee (1998-99) considered the request and decided to have detailed note in regard to three demands as mentioned in para 1.4 and also Statewise status report in regard to demands relating to State Governments.

1.7 The Committee examined the request for dropping of the assurance received from the Ministry of Defence at their sitting held on 7 February 2000. At that sitting, the Committee desired to call the representatives of the Ministry of Defence for certain clarification. Accordingly, oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Defence was taken on 4 April 2000.

1.8 During evidence, the Secretary of the Ministry of Defence submitted that there was time lapse in implementing recommendations because they were open-ended. He, however, stated that after Kargil operations, the Government have taken a number of steps to see that the benefits reach the ex-servicemen and their families. He also mentioned that ex-gratia payment has been considerably stepped up for those injured or got killed. The Committee were apprised that Pensionary benefits for ex-servicemen too were enhanced after 5th Pay Commission Report from Rs. 4000 crores to Rs. 11000, crores.

CHAPTER II

FACTS OF THE CASE

2.1 The Committee on Remainder problems of Ex-servicemen had been set up to examine demands of ex-servicemen other than those relating to pensions. The Committee was constituted on 9 July, 1992 with the following composition:-

1.	Addl. Secretary, Ministry of Defence	Chairman
2.	Addl. Secretary, Deptt. Of P & PW	Member
3.	Addl. Secretary , Ministry of Finance	Member
4.	Addl. Secretary , Ministry of Law	Member
5.	Js(Ad)/CAO, Ministry of Defence	Member
6.	JS, DOP & T	Member
7.	Addl. CGDA	Member
8.	Addl. FA(P), Ministry of Defence(Fin)	Member
9.	DG Resettlement	Member

2.2 The Committee submitted its report in August 1993 and recommended altogether 32 demands-partly 10 and fully 22 demands.

2.3 The Committee have been apprised that the number of ex-servicemen and widows registered in the country with various Rajya Sainik Boards/Zila Sainik Boards as on 31.12.1999 is 15,44,600 and 3,06,539 respectively, out of which the number of ex-servicemen registered for employment assistance is 3,06,032. Details of ex-servicemen who were provided re-employment in the Central and State Governments during the last 7 years are at Annexure III.

A RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED AND IMPLEMENTED

1. PSUs to obtain contract security from DGR or State Ex-Servicemen Corporation:- Department of Public Enterprises have issued instructions to all Ministries/Departments to engage security personnel in PSUs from ex-servicemen security agencies sponsored by DGR or State Ex-Servicemen Corporations.
2. Medical facilities to ex-servicemen/dependents through Armed Forces Hospitals:- Budget for Medical facilities has been increased to cater for medicines for ex-servicemen, service Hqrs. have set up 24 MI Room and 10 Dental Centres at stations having large population of ex-servicemen.
3. Duty-free import of thereapeutic gadgets by disabled ex-servicemen:- Ministry of Finance have clarified that items required by disabled and other categories of physically handicapped are permitted to be imported duty free.
4. Financial assistance to ex-servicemen/dependents for treatement of serious diseases:- Managing Committee of Armed Forces Flag Day Fund have approved that 60% of the actual cost of treatment may be paid to ex-servicemen/dependents.
5. Upward revision of monetary allowance of pre-independence gallantry award:- Government orders have been issued on 30th March, 1994, revising monetary allowance as recommended by the Committee.
6. Priority for admission in Kendriya Vidyalas for wards of ex-servicemen:- Kendriya Vidyalayas Sangthan has issued instruction for giving one time facility for admitting the children of ex-servicemen, restricted to two children per ex-servicemen, in Kendriya Vidyalayas at the place of resettlement if the class strength is below 45.
7. Maintenance of reservation for ex-servicemen:- The Department of Personnel & Training (DOP&T) have issued instructions on 1st December, 1994 clarifying that the percentage of reservation for ex-servicemen will remain the same as at present.
8. Statutory backing etc. for implementation of reservation for ex-servicemen:- The method of effecting available reservation for ex-servicemen has been examined by DOP&T. the DOP&T

have decided that the percentage of reservation of ex-servicemen should remain the same as at present. An ex-servicemen selected under the reservation provided for them should be placed in the appropriate category viz. SC/ST/OBC/General category depending upon the category which he belongs. Instructions have been issued in this regard by DOP&T to all Ministries/Departments.

9. Enhancement of monetary allowance attached to the post independence gallantry awards:- Government orders have been issued on 31st January, 1995, revising monetary allowance as recommended by the Committee.
- 10*. Extension of 100% Railway concession in the first class for the gallantry award winners.

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- This recommendation has been accepted by the Government subsequently.

B RECOMMENDATION WHICH HAVE BEEN REJECTED

Ministry of Defence informed the Committee that it was not possible for the Government to accept the following recommendations:-

1. Increase in allocation of seats in Medical/Dental Colleges from Central Pool for admission of wards of Defence Personnel.
2. Counting of military service for increment and promotion on re-employment in Civil as the proposal was not accepted by the Department of Personnel and Training.
3. The Committee did not recommend grant of pension to World War II veterans. However, the Committee recommended that some financial assistance under the ongoing Welfare activities/schemes may be given to World War II veterans. The recommendations has been examined and not found feasible.

2.4 The above three demands recommended by the Committee were not accepted by the Government due to various reasons as mentioned in the succeeding paras.

In case of 1 above it is stated that ever since the Supreme Court gave ruling for the reservation of 15 percent of the MBBS and BDS seats for All India Entrance Examination, some of the States which were earlier contributing to the Central pool regretted their inability to contribute their share of

seats to the Central Pool. Some other States have reduced their contribution of seats on the plea that they have already contributed 15 percent of the seats. As a result, Ministry of Health have to correspondingly reduce allocation to various agencies including Defence. Prior to the Supreme Court ruling, the number of seats allocated to Ministry of Defence in MBBS and BDS were 40 and 4 which has now been reduced to 28 seats in MBBS and 1 in BDS respectively. The ex-servicemen had demanded that allocation of seats in MBBS AND BDS courses be increased to 50 and 10 respectively on the plea that the present quota is not sufficient to meet the requirement of ward of war/peace time casualties. The recommendation of the Committee was for 48 seats in MBBS and 4 seats in BDS for the wards of eligible categories.

2.5 The Committee were informed during evidence that many new colleges are being instituted like a Dental College in Hyderabad where wards of defence personnel will be given weightage. The Committee were also informed that the Government are able to meet the requirements with regard to allotted seats in medical colleges.

2.6 In regard to 2 above, the Committee had observed that since pensionary benefits are granted to ex-servicemen, it will not be correct to grant double benefit to the re-employed personnel by counting their previous service for seniority and increment. However, the Committee had recommended that short Service Commission Officers (SSCO) be granted seniority when absorbed against reserved vacancies.

2.7 The Department of Personnel & Training however opened that the benefit of Army Service for the purpose of seniority and pay to ex-SSCOs, who were commissioned between 1.11.1962 and 10.1.1968 was a one time benefit, granted to compensate them for the opportunity missed by them in responding to the call of the nation during the national emergency faced by the country in the wake of the Chinese aggression. This facility has ceased with effect from 29.1.1974.

2.8 In regard to 3 above, the Committee have been informed that World War II Veterans who were recruited in the British India Army for the duration of the war for short periods ranging from 2 to 6 years did not satisfy the condition of qualifying service for grant of pensions. According to the information available with the Ministry of Defence, the number of World War II Veterans and their widows is 99,697 and 61, 917 respectively.

2.9 In a note sent to the Committee, the Ministry of Defence have elaborated that a proposal for grant of some financial assistance to World War II Veterans, from the Defence Budget, was taken up with the Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure) and a request was made for provision of non-plan budget. However, the Ministry of Finance expressed inability to provide funds for the purpose. It has further been reported that the Ministry of Defence requested the Ministry of Welfare for covering these persons under their welfare schemes but they also did not accept the proposal.

2.10 The Ministry of Defence have further stated that they persuaded the State Governments for providing assistance at a minimum scale of Rs. 300/- per month to these ex-soldiers. It has also been

reported that World War II soldiers or their widows who are in indigent circumstances are given monthly financial assistance upto Rs. 1000 p.m. from the Raksha Mantri's discretionary Fund through Zila Sainik Board. Details of financial assistance granted to World War II veterans by various states are as under:-

Financial Assistance given to the World War II veterans

<u>Sl.No.</u>	<u>State/UT</u>	<u>Rs. Per month</u>
1.	Andhra Pradesh	100
2.	Arunchal Pradesh	100
3.	Assam	NIL
4.	Bihar	100
5.	Delhi	500
6.	Goa	500
7.	Gujarat	NIL
8.	Haryana	200
9.	Himachal Pradesh	100
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	NIL
11.	Karnataka	500
12.	Kerala	200
13.	Madhya Pradesh	250
14.	Maharashtra	300
15.	Manipur	NIL
16.	Meghalaya	NIL
17.	Mizoram	200
18.	Nagaland	NIL
19.	Orissa	100
20.	Punjab	200
21.	Rajasthan	300
22.	Sikkim	75
23.	Tamilnadu	150
24.	Tripura	300
25.	Uttar Pradesh	250
26.	West Bengal	100
27.	A& N Islands	NIL
28.	Chandigarh	150
29.	Pondicherry	500

C. **RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH WERE UNDER THE CONSIDERATION OF MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND ACTION TAKEN THEREON**

1. Revision of rates of Jangi Inam Awards:

Recommendation: The Committee on Remainder Problems of ex-servicemen recommended that the existing monetary allowance in respect of Jangi Inam awards may be revised to Rs. 100/- per month for all categories.

Action taken: Government orders revising the rates of Jangi Inam awards to Rs.100/- per month for all categories w.e.f 25.1.1995 have been issued on 18th May, 1995.

2. Opening of CSD Canteens in remote areas:

Recommendation: The Committee recommended that the Army HQRs may be requested to open CSD (I) canteens in such remote areas which have sizeable concentration of ex-servicemen.

Action taken: The recommendation of the Committee was taken up with the Army Headquarters. They have informed that the existing system of Canteen facilities in Northern and Eastern Command is quite adequate due to peculiar deployment of troops and inherent availability of canteen facilities in these locations. In Western Command, new Canteens have been opened at Panipat, Faridabad and Kaithal Central Command have also opened a few canteens exclusively for ex-servicemen in UP at Pauri, Thalissain, Bageshwar, Mujaffarnagar, Badaun, Sitapur, New Tehri, Bazpur, Bulandshahar, Ramnagar, Fatehpur, Sultanpur and an extension counter at Ghazipur. The southern command is reported to have opened CSD canteens at Pune, Chiplun Kavathe, Mahankal, Dhule, Vellore, Tirunelveli, Trichy and Palghat.

The Committee have been informed that the remote area in terms of opening of CSD canteen is an area where there is no army station.

3. Opening of more Defence Service Officers' Institutes (DSOIs)

Recommendation:- The Committee felt that more such Institutes be opened wherever feasible and membership of ex-servicemen officers be allowed liberally.

Action taken:- The DSOIs are opened and run from the Defence Service Officers Welfare Fund (DSOWF) and are not funded by the Government. Recommendations of the Committee regarding setting up of more DSOI was intimated to the Quarter Master General, Army HQRs., who is the Chairman of the DSOWF. They have informed that the opening of a DSOI depends on the financial viability of the proposal and the availability of funds at the disposal of DSOWF. The proposals for opening of new DSOIs are considered by the Governing Body of DSOWF. As

Government has already requested the concerned Body to open more DSOI and it has no further role to play in such matters, the action on the recommendation may be treated as completed.

It has been reported that only one DSOI is functioning and is located in New Delhi. However, there are similar facilities at many other places in the country. The objective of DSOI is to promote the welfare of serving and retired officers of Defence Services and to bring them together by providing them facilities like sports, reading rooms, swimming pools etc.

4. Introduction of Soft Seed Capital Assistance (SSCA) for Transport under SEMFEX-I Scheme

Recommendation: The Soft Seed Capital Assistance for transport sector under SEMFEX-I scheme may be agreed to by the Government initially for a period of two years. Its confirmation beyond this period may be subject to a review of recovery pattern of previous loans.

Action taken: The matter has been examined in consultation with the Integrated Finance and it has been decided that Soft Seed Capital Assistance on transport loans should not be re-introduced till the recovery position improves as resumption of SSCA shall only further increase the over dues.

It has been reported that under SEMFEX-I scheme, Soft Seed Capital Assistance (SSCA) is provided to ex-servicemen for road transport and small scale industries by the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI). As per the reports received from SIDBI, a total of Rs. 21.89 crore has been disbursed as SSCA to ex-servicemen. Under the scheme, 15% of the project cost is provided as Soft Seed Capital Assistance (SSCA), which was shared by SIDBI and DGR. Only service charge of 1% p.a was charged on SSCA till 31 March 1992. From April 1992, interest rate on SSCA was revised to 1% service charge during moratorium period (upto 5 years) and 6% interest thereafter. 66-75% of the project cost was given as term loan by the State Finance Corporation for which the interest rates were as per prevailing bank rates.

The Committee have also been informed that SSCA has been provided in 4865 cases. As reported by SIDBI to Ministry of Defence, a sum of Rs. 1.56 crores is outstanding against road transport loan. According to information received from DGR it is stated that the default was more or less deliberate in most cases. After obtaining a list of defaulters from SIDBI it has been reported that DGR have written to all Zila Sainik Boards to take stern action for recovery. It has also been reported that Tamil Nadu has taken punitive action against the defaulters by way of confiscation of vehicles.

5. Recognition of Military Training for Civil Employment:

Recommendation: The Service headquarters should make an endeavour to get the remaining service trades and qualifications which have not already been equated with civil trades and qualifications.

Action Taken: The recommendation of the Committee was referred to the Service headquarters who have informed that in cases where compatibility with civil trades/qualifications exists, the equation has been completed in consultation with Ministry of Human Resource Development. As per the latest reports, out of 609 service trades, 516 trades have been equated with civil trades.

6 & 7. Lateral induction of Armed Forces Personnel in the Central/State Governments and assured employment upto the age of 58 years.

Action Taken: These recommendations relate to the recruitment policy and the basic terms of engagement of service personnel and hence will have wider implications. This being a major policy issue requiring consultation with the various Ministries/Departments like MHA, DOP&T and Ministry of Finance, it is not possible to fix any specific time frame for implementation of these recommendations. The Army Hqrs. have mooted the proposal for lateral induction of Armed Forces Personnel in the civil departments, public sector undertakings etc. with a view to give assured employment upto the age of 58 years (since raised to 60 years). Most of ex-servicemen prefer the lateral induction in the civil side at a level corresponding to the years of service put in the Armed Forces and the status enjoyed at the time of discharge from the Armed Forces. However, past service rendered in the Armed Forces are not taken into account for the purpose of seniority in the civil post in which an ex-serviceman gets re-employed. Hence, the lateral induction of Armed Forces personnel in the civil side has not made any headway. It has further been reported that the matter regarding lateral induction of Armed Forces personnel in Central para Military Forces (CPMF) was taken up with Hon'ble Home Minister by Raksha Mantri in June 1998 and is still being followed up. However, from the response received from the Ministry of Home Affairs, it is observed that the Ministry has the following reservation on the lateral induction of service personnel:-

- (1) Induction of Army Personnel in the CPMFs would amount to militarising the CPMFs which are basically meant to assist civil administration in maintaining public order.
- (2) Induction of demobilised Army personnel into CPMF after giving them some orientation training, is also not acceptable because an army personnel who has put in 5 years of his youth with the traditions, ethos and culture of army will find it extremely difficult to adjust to the new jobs. It is seldom that army is deployed in half section. Army jawan is not used to act in such small formations and he is used to very different system of command and control.
- (3) In the present context of Internal security scenario, the young profile of CPMF's is as much a requirement as for the Army: CPMFs are over stretched in performing active duties which puts considerable strain on them. As such, a young profile in CPMFs is also highly desirable.

(4) The perks and salaries of Army personnel are far better than those available in the CPMFs. The absorption of demobilised Army personnel will create problems of pay fixation/seniority.

(5) In the CPMFs, the policy of reservation for SCs/STs and OBCs is applicable. This representation will go down in to the extent of induction of Army Personnel as there is no reservation in the Army.

(6) There is already provision of 10% quota at the Assistant Commandant level in CPMFs, which goes unutilised as many Short Service Commissioned Officers do not want to join CPMFs.

2.12 As regards the reaction of the State Governments, the Committee are informed that they are already providing reservation for ex-servicemen in civil jobs and that they will examine the proposal for lateral induction of Defence Personnel in State Police Service as per applicable rules. It has further been stated that the Kargil Review Committee has inter-alia recommended lateral induction of Armed Forces personnel into CPMF. The matter is, therefore, being examined afresh.

2.13 The Committee have also been informed that in July 1998, Raksha Mantri wrote to Chief Ministers of all the States for lateral induction of Defence services personnel in State Police Forces, but no favourable response has been received so far.

8. Raising the retirement age limit in respect of JCO/ORs

Action Taken: Orders have been issued raising the retirement age of JCOs and ORs by two years vide order dated 3.9.1998.

9. Upgradation of the Artificial Limb Sub-Centres (ALSCS) at Delhi and Pune and setting up of the ALSCs at Bangalore, Calcutta and Chandigarh

Recommendation: The Committee recommended that in the first phase the Artificial Limb Sub-Centres at Delhi and Pune should be upgraded and in the second phase artificial limb sub-centres may be established at Chandigarh, Bangalore and Calcutta.

Action Taken: For upgradation of ALSCs at Delhi and Lucknow, Rs. 4 crores have been allocated from National Defence Fund and Rs. 6 Crores have also been allocated for raising of three Sub-Centres at Chandi Mandir, Guwahati and Bangalore (Rs. 2 crores for each centre).

It has also been reported that Artificial Limb Centre at Pune is already functioning as a full fledged centre, whereas two sub-centres at Delhi and Lucknow have been provided with well equipped latest tools and equipment. It has also been informed that State-of-the-art-Carbon fibre limbs have been developed in collaboration with DRDO and the same is being issued to patients by ALC, Pune.

The Committee were also informed that Guwahati was chosen instead of Calcutta which was recommended earlier by the Committee for establishing an ALC sub-Centre since the North Eastern region is not well connected as compared to Calcutta and that the recipients of artificial limbs from that region may find it difficult to go to Calcutta for following checks.

D RECOMMENDATIONS UNDER CONSIDERATION WITH OTHER MINISTRIES/DEPARTMENTS AND ACTION TAKEN THEREON

1. Reservation of Vacancies in Group 'A' and 'B' for Ex-service Officers:

Recommendation: The Committee recommended that the Department of Personnel & Training should hasten the process of identification of such posts so that policy decision for making reservations can be implemented.

Action Taken: The recommendation of the Committee was referred to the Department of Personnel & Training (DOP&T). The DOP&T have issued instructions to all the Ministries/Departments PSUs/Nationalised Banks to identify the categories of posts which can be filled up by lateral induction of Armed Forces Personnel. 1050 group 'A' Posts of Chief Security Officers in Nationalised banks have been found suitable for lateral induction of Servicemen. Besides, all the posts in PSUs available for deputation/transfer/re-employment except those which are of short term duration and offer consolidated salary of Rs. 10,000/P.M. are suitable for lateral induction of Defence Personnel.

2. Categorisation of ex-servicemen Guards employed in Security Agencies as 'Semi skilled'.

Recommendation: Matter may be referred to Ministry of Labour for inclusion of guards (ex-servicemen) employed in shops and establishments, registered factories, private hospitals/nursing homes and local authorities etc., within the definition of skilled/semi-skilled workers by their addition in the schedule to the Minimum Wages Act. Ministry of Defence could follow it up with the State Govts. thereafter.

Action Taken: The recommendation of the Committee was taken up with the Ministry of Labour for issue of necessary instructions. The Ministry of Labour examined the recommendation and have since issued notification adopting the following categorisation:-

- a) Chowkidars/Watchmen - Unskilled
- b) Security Guards (without Arms) - Semi-Skilled
- c) Security Guards (with Arms) - Skilled

The State Governments have been accordingly advised.

3. Grant of Ex-servicemen status to Recruits and Officer Cadets medically boarded out due to attributable cause:

Recommendation: Recruits/Officer Cadets who are medically boarded out due to attributable causes be given the eligibility for employment assistance through ex-servicemen reservations and self-employment facilities by the issue of suitable administrative instructions. They however, need not be categorised as ex-servicemen.

Action Taken: The recommendation was referred to the Department of Personnel & Training. The Department have issued necessary orders vide their Office Memorandum No. 14024/3/95-Estt. (D) dated 4.6.1996

4. Pay Fixation and re-employment of service officers:

Recommendation: Department of Personnel & Training should consider enhancing the ignorable part of pension from Rs. 500/- to Rs. 1650/- (the maximum to a Non-Commissioned Officer).

Action Taken: The matter was taken up with the Department of Personnel & Training. Necessary orders have been issued by the DOP&T vide OM No. 3/4/97-Estt. (Pay II) dated 7.11.1997.

E RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO ISSUES WITHIN THE COMPETENCE OF THE STATE GOVERNMENTS AND STATEWISE STATUS REPORT THEREON.

Following issues are within the competence of the State Governments:

1. Amendment of Rent Control Act and Land Tenancy Act to safeguard the interests of the Ex-servicemen.
2. Setting up of Ex-servicemen Corporations to help them in their resettlement.
3. Reservation of House sites/houses for ex-servicemen/widows of Defence Personnel.
4. Exemption from payment of House tax to war widows and war disabled ex-servicemen.
5. Revision of rates of cash grants/monetary allowance given by States to gallantry award winners.
6. Removal of domiciliary restrictions for admission of wards of Defence Personnel/ ex-servicemen in technical/vocational courses.

Various concessions/benefits including the ones mentioned above are extended by the State Governments depending upon their financial position. As these subject matters fall within the powers of the States, it is not possible for the Centre to issue any directive to the State Governments in such matters. Requests have, however, been made from time to time for implementation of such measures. On 1st November, 1995, the Prime Minister had written to the Chief Ministers of the States and the Administrators of the Union Territories requesting action with promptitude and sympathy on various issues relating to the welfare and resettlement of ex-servicemen including the above mentioned points. These issues have also been discussed in the 24th meeting of the Kendriya Sainik Board held on 24th August, 1996 and the representatives of the State Governments were requested to expedite their decision. Since the above six recommendations relate to the state Governments and implementation depends to a great extent on their financial position, it is difficult to get the States agree to these recommendations. In the case of a number of States, it has been observed that the States are lacking the political will to implement the recommendations for reasons that the ex-servicemen population in their State is very insignificant. Requests have, however, been made from time to time for implementation of such measures. Since no action is pending on the part of the Centre, the assurance on these items be dropped.

The Committee have been apprised that the State Government have occasionally requested Ministry of Defence to provide assistance for welfare of ex-servicemen and World War II Veterans in particular. As the welfare of ex-servicemen and their families is the joint responsibilities of the Central and State Governments, the Central Government is bearing 50 percent of the expenses of the State Government towards maintenance of Rajya Sainik Boards/Zila Sainik Boards. A provision of Rs 850 lakhs was made in the budget for 1999-2000 and Rs 960 lakhs has been proposed in the Budget for 2000-2001 on this account.

STATEWISE STATUS REPORT IN RESPECT OF RECOMMENDATIONS UNDER CONSIDERATION OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

1. AMENDMENT TO RENT CONTROL

To enable the ex-Servicemen to take possession of their house/land for self-utilisation after retirement from service, it was proposed that States/UTs should amend their Rent Control Acts and Land Reforms Acts in favour of ex-Servicemen. The Hon'ble Raksha Mantri, vide his letter dated 11 October, 1996, addressed to all the State Governments had requested the States/UTs which had not amended the Land Tenancy Acts and Rent Control Acts to do so on a time-bound basis. The State-wise status is enclosed.

INFORMATION ABOUT RENT CONTROL ACT

RSB CODE	STATE/UT	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENT	FAVOURS ESM
1.	Andhra Pradesh	A P Buildings (lease Rent and Eviction) control Act 1960	No
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	There is no rent control act enacted in Aru Pradesh so far.	No
3.	Assam	The Assam Urban Areas Rent Control (Amendment) Act 1987.	Yes
4.	Bihar	Bihar Building Lease, Rend and Eviction (Amd) Act 93 GZT. No.62 dt 10.2.94	Yes
5.	Delhi	The Delhi Rent Control Act 1958.	Yes
6.	Goa	Rent Control Act and Rules 1988.	Yes
7.	Gujarat	The Bombay Rent Control Act is u.c. for suitable amendment by State	No
8.	Haryana	Haryana Urban Rent Control Act 1988.	Yes
9.	Himachal Pradesh	Urban Rent Control Act	Yes
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	Shops and house Rent Control Act	No
11.	Karnataka	Sec 21-B, Karnataka Rent Control Act (Amendment) 1983	Yes
12.	Kerala	Act 16 of 1974. The Kerala Building (Lease & Rent Control Act) Amend 73	Yes
13.	Madhya Pradesh	Madhya Pradesh Accommodation Control (Amendment) Act 1983	Yes
14.	Maharashtra	Bombay Rent Control Act (Amdt) Act 1987.	Yes
15.	Manipur	No	No
16.	Meghalaya	No	No

17.	Mizoram	No	No
18.	Nagaland	No	No
19.	Orissa	No Rent Control Act. Proposal is under active consideration of St. Govt.	No
20.	Punjab	The East Punjab Urban Rent Restriction (Amendment) Act 1985.	Yes
21.	Rajasthan	Rajasthan Premises (control) of Rent and Eviction (Amendment) Ord 1987)	Yes
22.	Sikkim	Provision under Gangtok Rent Control and Eviction Act-I of 1956.	No
23.	Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu Building (Lease and Rent) Control Act 1960.	Yes
24.	Tripura	Tripura Rent Control Act 13 of 1982.	Yes
25.	Uttar Pradesh	UP Urban Building (Regulation Rent Eviction) Act 1985 Amendment 17 of 1985.	Yes
26.	West Bengal	The West Bengal Premises Act 1956 as amended.	Yes
27.	Andaman and Nicobar UT	Rent Control Regulation 1964.	No
28.	Chandigarh UT	East Punjab Rent Restriction Amendment Act 1985 Extended To UT CHD 86	Yes
29.	Pondicherry UT	The Pondicherry Building Leases & Rent Control Amendment Act 1986.	Yes

INFORMATION ABOUT LAND TENANCY ACT

RSB CODE	STATE/UT	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENT	FAVOURS ESM
1.	Andhra Pradesh	A P Land Tenency Act	No
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	No
3.	Assam	Ex-Servicemen are considered as a special case.	No
4.	Bihar	Bihar Kasthanakari Act 1885	Yes
5.	Delhi	Land Tenancy Act not amended.	No
6.	Goa	Case under progress.	No
7.	Gujarat	Revenue Deptt GR No. TMC-1087-133-92-J dated 22/05/87	No
8.	Haryana	Punjab Security of land act 1984. Pepsu Tenency Act Agr. Land Act 1984.	Yes
9.	Himachal Pradesh	Land Reforms and Land Tenancy Act	Yes
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	No Act. However J & K Agrarian Reforms Act 1976 gives one time concession.	No
11.	Karnataka	Karnataka Land Reforms Act 1961.	No
12.	Kerala	No Provision for lease land in Kerala.	No
13.	Madhya Pradesh	Madhya Pradesh Revenue Code 1956	Yes
14.	Maharashtra	Land Tenency and Reforms Act 1954.	Yes
15.	Manipur	Nil	No
16.	Meghalaya	Nil	No
17.	Mizoram	Nil	No
18.	Nagaland	Nil	No
19.	Orissa	There is no act at present.	No

20.	Punjab	Punjab Security of land Tenancy Act 1953 & Pepsu Tenancy & Agri Land Act 1955.	Yes
21.	Rajasthan		No
22.	Sikkim	Vide Govt. of Sikkim notification No. LR-22/27/1/1979	No
23.	Tamil Nadu	The Tamil Nadu Cultivating Tenancy Act 1955.	Yes
24.	Tripura	Tripura Land Control Act 13 of 1983.	Yes
25.	Uttar Pradesh	GO 26/1-1(B)/76 Revenue Dt 22/1/76., 225/1-12676 Revenue Dt 29/1/76.	No
26.	West Bengal		No
27.	Andaman and Nicobar UT	No Act in force	No
28.	Chandigarh UT	Nil	No
29.	Pondicherry UT	Nil.	No

2.

EX-SERVICEMEN CORPORATIONS IN STATES

1. Ex-Servicemen Corporations have been created in the States of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh. The main objects for setting up these Corporations are:-
 - (a) To provide necessary assistance to ESM in planning, formulating, securing financial assistance, commencement and conduct of various business enterprises and establishing them for the resettlement/rehabilitation of ESM.
 - (b) To formulate and execute various schemes for the welfare and economic upliftment of ESM and their families.
 - (c) To promote entrepreneurship among ESM and their families.

2. Brief description of activities of these Corporations are as follows:-
 - (a) Punjab Ex-Servicemen Corporation (PESCO):- The Chairman is Maj. Gen J M Lal (Retd.) and Managing Director is Brig KS Kahlon, SM (Retd). This Corporation is presently engaged in the following commercial activities:-
 - (i) Bullet-proofing of vehicles in Punjab and neighbouring States.

- (ii) Providing Security Services and stitching of uniforms for the Army and NCC.
- (iii) Providng security services.
- (iv) Construction of War Memorials, Sainik Rest Houses and DSOI, Chandigarh.

(b) Himachal Pradesh ESM Corporation:- The Chairman are Managing Director of the Corporation is Col S C Sharma (Retd). This Corporation is primarily engaged in transporting cement from the ACC Gagal Plant at Barmana, District Bilaspur to various destinations in Delhi, Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh. The Corporation has also assisted ESM in arranging training for them, in dairy fruit processing, Bee- keeping, Fisheries, Mushroom and Horticulture activities.

(c) Tamil Nadu Ex-Servicemen's Corporation Ltd (TEXCO)

The Chairman of the Corporation is Shri PWC Davidar and the General Manager is Gp Capt. J J Joseph (Retd.) . This Corporation is presently engaged in the following activities:-

- (i) Providing security services.
- (ii) Running of Printing Press.
- (iii) Manning Paid Parking slots for Madras Corporation.
- (iv) Providing Manpower for telecom to ONGC.

(d) Uttar Pradesh Bhutourva Sainik Kalyan Nigam Ltd:-

Chairman of the Nigam is Lt Gen (Retd.) MS Gosain, PVSM, AVSM, VSM and the Managing Director is Brig Ashok Bhannot (Retd) who is also the Director, Deptt of Sainik kalyan Evam Punarvas (UP). This Corporation is presently engaged in the following activities:-

- (i) Providing security services in UP, MP and Delhi.
- (ii) Providing manpower for technical services such as for heavy vehicles, workshops, communication services, nursing services etc.
- (iii) Undertaking adventure activities which are funded by the National Adventure Foundation such as scooter safaris, trekking in inner Himalayas, white-water sport and para-sailing.

3. A Central Co-ordination Committee for ESM Corporations in MOD have been set up under the Chairmanship of Addl Secy/MOD to foster the development of these Corporations. The terms reference of the Committee are:-

- (a) Provide guidance and help for fostering the growth of State ESM Corporations.
- (b) Carry out periodical review of the progress made these Corporations in promoting ESM resettlement and suggest remedial measures where necessary.
- (c) Be the Central forum at the national level to discuss various projects undertaken by these Corporations.

(d) Establish formal linkages between the State Corporations and Share info relating to marketing strategies and technologies with each other.

4. Meeting of Central Co-ordination Committee for Ex-Servicemen Corporations:-

The Central Coordination Committee for Ex-Servicemen Corporations coordinates various activities of the Ex-servicemen. Corporations existing in the States of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh and also the means of their further development, as well as encouraging other States to establish Ex-Servicemen Corporations, where these Corporations do not exist as of now.

5. The Committee has so far held two meetings. The last meeting was held on 16 Jan 97 under the Chairmanship of Shri Ashok Kumar, Addl Secy (A). The main points that were discussed during the meeting are as under:-

- (a) Quota for stitching of Uniforms for stitching and production Centre run by ESM Corporations.
- (b) Creation of Corpus of fund to help finance projects started by ESM Corporations.
- (c) Permanent exemption from payment of Income Tax.

3. RESERVATION FOR WIDOWS/EX-SERVICEMEN/DEPENDENTS FOR HOUSE SITES/HOUSES.

RES CODE	STATE/UT	HOUSE SITES
1.	ANDHRA PRADESH	0 %
2.	ARUNCHAL PRADESH	0 %
3.	ASSAM	0 %
4.	BIHAR	10 %
5.	DELHI	0 %
6.	GOA	2 %
7.	GUJARAT	0 %
8.	HARYANA	10 %
9.	HIMACHAL PRADESH	10 %
10.	JAMMU AND KASHMIR	5 %
11.	KARNATAKA	10 %

12.	KERALA	3 %
13.	MADHYA PRADESH	2 %
14.	MAHARASHTRA	5 %
15.	MANIPUR	0 %
16.	MEGHALAYA	0 %
17.	MIZORAM	0 %
18.	NAGALAND	0 %
19.	ORISSA	3 %
20.	PUNJAB	8 %
21.	RAJASTHAN	10 %
22.	SIKKIM	0 %
23.	TAMIL NADU	7 %
24.	TRIPURA	10 %
25.	UTTAR PRADESH	3 %
26.	WEST BENGAL	0 %
27.	ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR UT	0 %
28.	CHANDIGARH	0 %
29.	PONDICHERY UT	5 %

4. **EXEMPTION OF HOUSE TAX FOR SELF-OCCUPATION**

1. A large number of ex-Servicemen Association and War Widows Associations had made representation to the Ministry of Defence requesting exemption from taxes on houses owned or rented out by ex-Servicemen, war widows and widows of ex-Servicemen levied by Municipalities and Gram Panchayats.
2. It was brought out that majority of the Defence personal retire at the age of 32 to 40 years and settle down in or near their home towns. The process of rehabilitation calls for considerable readjustment in their life styles as they are suddenly deprived of their full salary, ration and other benefits and their earning capacity is more than halved. Considering the resettlement and rehabilitation of these ex-Servicemen a National responsibility, it was felt that their demands for exemption from taxes on salaries, professionals and houses deserve sympathetic look.

3. In this regard, the Defence Minister had requested the concerned States/Uts Chief Ministers/Lt Governors, vide his letter dated 11 Oct 96, to sympatheticllay view the matter of exempting ex-Servicemen of their States/Uts from paying house/property tax.
4. The information of exemption of House Tax by the States/Uts is given on succeeding pages.
5. The States/Uts which have not incorporated exemption of house/property tax for ex-Servicemen and war widows/widows are requested to take necessary action at the earliest.

Other concessions

6. The status in respect of under mentioned concessions extended by various States is given in succeeding pages:-
 - (a) Stamp fee
 - (b) Examination fee
 - (c) Registration fee
 - (d) Hospitalisation fee
 - (e) Entertainment tax
 - (f) Provision of free legal assistance

EXEMPTION OF HOUSE TAX FOR SELF OCCUPATION

RES	STATE/UT	EXEMPTED	INCOME CEILING Rs.
1.	ANDHRA PRADESH	YES	
2.	ARUNCHAL PRADESH	NO	NOT APPLICABLE
3.	ASSAM	NO	NOT APPLICABLE
4.	BIHAR	NO	NOT APPLICABLE
5.	DELHI	NO	NOT APPLICABLE
6.	GOA	NO	NOT APPLICABLE
7.	GUJARAT	NO	NOT APPLICABLE
8.	HARYANA	YES	
9.	HIMACHAL PRADESH	YES	
10.	JAMMU AND KASHMIR	YES	

11.	KARNATAKA	YES	
12.	KERALA	NO	NOT APPLICABLE
13.	MADHYA PRADESH	YES	
14.	MAHARASHTRA	NO	NOT APPLICABLE
15.	MANIPUR	NO	NOT APPLICABLE
16.	MEGHALAYA	NO	NOT APPLICABLE
17.	MIZORAM	YES	
18.	NAGALAND	YES	
19.	ORISSA	YES	
20.	PUNJAB	YES	
21.	RAJASTHAN	YES	
22.	SIKKIM	YES	
23.	TAMIL NADU	NO	NOT APPLICABLE
24.	TRIPURA	YES	
25.	UTTAR PRADESH	NO	NOT APPLICABLE
26.	WEST BENGAL	NO	NOT APPLICABLE
27.	ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR UT	NO	NOT APPLICABLE
28.	CHANDIGARH UT	YES	
29.	PONDICHERRY UT	NO	NOT APPLICABLE

5. **CASH GRANTS TO GALLANTRY/NON-GALLANTRY AWARD WINNERS**

1. The cash grants being provided by the States/Uts to Gallantry Award Winners since 1986 vary widely from State to State. It was felt that the State Governments should consider uniform grant of cash awards to the gallantry award winners so that service personnel hailing from different States but serving in the same Units do not get discriminated in terms of cash grants for the same act of bravery. The point was discussed during the KSB meeting held on 24 Aug 96 also and the Hon'ble Raksha Mantri had requested the States/Uts vide his letter dated 11 Oct 96, to accept the rates recommended by MOD for grant of cash grants Gallantry/Non-Gallantry award winners and implement the same at the earliest.
2. The details of cash grants to Gallantry/non-Gallantry award winners provided by different States/Uts is given in succeeding pages.

3. State Govt/Uts are requested to take immediate necessary action in this regard.

STATE WISE DETAILS OF CASH GRANTS GIVEN TO GALLANTRY/NON GALLANTRY AWARD WINNERS

Sl. No.	State/UT		PVC	MVC	VrC	Ashok Chakra	Kirti Chakra	Shourya Chakra	Sarvottam Yudh Sewa Medal
1.	Andhra Pradesh	(a)	22,500	15,000	7,000	20,000	12,000	5,000	17,000
		(b)	1,50,000	1,00,000	50,000	1,25,000	75,000	40,000	1,10,000
		(c)	1,000	400	300	600	350	250	600
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	(a)	22,500	15,000	7,000	20,000	12,000	5,000	17,000
		(b)	1,50,000	1,00,000	50,000	1,25,000	75,000	40,000	1,10,000
		(c)	1,000	400	300	800	350	250	600
3.	Assam	(a)	22,500	15,000	7,000	20,000	12,000	5,000	17,000
		(b)	1,50,000	1,00,000	50,000	1,25,000	75,000	40,000	1,10,000
		(c)	1,000	400	300	800	350	250	600
4.	Bihar	(a)	15,000	10,000	7,000	10,000	5,000	3500	
		(b)							
		(c)							
5.	Delhi	(a)	22,500	15,000	7,000	20,000	12,000	5,000	17,000
		(b)	1,50,000	1,00,000	50,000	1,25,000	75,000	40,000	1,10,000
		(c)	1,000	400	300	800	350	250	600
6.	Goa	(a)							
		(b)							
		(c)							
7.	Gujarat	(a)	22,500	15,000	7,000	20,000	12,000	5,000	17,000
		(b)							
		(c)	500						
8.	Haryana	(a)	22,500	15,000	7,000	20,000	12,000	5,000	17,000
		(b)	1,50,000	1,00,000	50,000	1,00,000	50,000	30,000	1,10,000
		(c)	3,000	1,200	900	2,400	900	600	2,3000
9.	Himachal Pradesh	(a)	22,500	15,000	7,000	20,000	12,000	5,000	18,000
		(b)	1,50,000	1,00,000	50,000	1,25,000	75,000	40,000	
		(c)	1,000	400	300	800	350	250	600
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	(a)	22,500	15,000	7,000	20,000	12,000	5,000	17,000
		(b)	1,50,000	1,00,000	50,000	1,25,000	75,000	40,000	1,10,000
		(c)	1,000	400	300	800	350	250	600
11.	Karnataka	(a)	22,500	15,000	7,000	20,000	12,000	5,000	17,000
		(b)	1,50,000	1,00,000	50,000	1,25,000	75,000	40,000	1,10,000
		(c)	1,000	400	300	800	350	250	600
12.	Kerala	(a)	22,500	15,000	7,500	20,000	12,000	5,000	
		(b)							
		(c)							
13.	Madhya Pradesh	(a)	22,500	15,000	7,000	20,000	12,000	5,000	17,000
		(b)	1,50,000	1,00,000	50,000	1,25,000	75,000	40,000	1,10,000
		(c)							
14.	Maharashtra	(a)	1,00,000	60,000	50,000	80,000	30,000	25,000	
		(b)							
		(c)							
15.	Manipur	(a)	22,500	15,000	7,000	20,000	12,000	5,000	17,000
		(b)							
		(c)							

Legend :- (a) Cash grant; (b) Cash in lieu of land; (c) Annuity

Sl. No.	State/UT		PVC	MVC	VrC	Ashok Chakra	Kirti Chakra	Shourya Chakra	Sarvottam Yudh Sewa Medal
16.	Meghalaya	(a)							
		(b)							
		(c)							
17.	Mizoram	(a)	22,500	15,000	7,000		12,000	5,000	10,000
		(b)							
		(c)				180			
18.	Nagaland	(a)	22,500	15,000	7,000	20,000	12,000	5,000	
		(b)	1,50,000	1,00,000	50,000	1,25,000	75,000	40,000	
		(c)	1,000	400	300	800	350	250	
19.	Orissa	(a)	22,500	15,000	7,000	20,000	12,000	5,000	17,000
		(b)							
		(c)							
20.	Punjab	(a)	22,500	15,000	7,000	20,000	12,000	5,000	17,000
		(b)	1,50,000	1,00,000	50,000	1,25,000	75,000	40,000	1,10,000
		(c)	4,200	3,900	2,400	3,900	3000	2,100	1,200
21.	Rajasthan	(a)	22,000	15,000	7,000	20,000	12,000	5,000	17,000
		(b)	25 Bighas	25 Bighas	25 Bighas	25 Bighas	25 Bighas	25 Bighas	25 Bighas
		(c)	Irri. land 50 Bighas Unirri. Land	Irri. land 50 Bighas Unirri. Land	Irri. Land 50 Bighas Unirri. Land	Irri. land 50 Bighas Unirri. Land	Irri. land 50 Bighas Unirri. Land	Irri. land 50 Bighas Unirri. Land	Irri. land 50 Bighas Unirri. Land
22.	Sikkim	(a)	22,500	15,000	7,000	20,000	12,000	5,000	17,000
		(b)	1,50,000	1,00,000	50,000	1,25,000	75,000	40,000	1,10,000
		(c)	1,000	400	300	800	350	250	600
23.	Tamil Nadu	(a)	22,500	15,000	7,000	20,000	12,000	5,000	17,000
		(b)							
		(c)							
24.	Tripura	(a)	22,500	15,000	7,000	20,000	12,000	5,000	17,000
		(b)							
		(c)							
25.	Uttar Pradesh	(a)	2,00,000	1,25,000	57,500	20,000	17,000	5,000	1,25,000
		(b)							
		(c)	1,000	400	300	200	100	100	150
26.	West Bengal	(a)	22,500	15,000	7,000	20,000	12,000	5,000	17,000
		(b)	1,50,000	1,00,000	50,000	1,25,000	75,000	40,000	1,10,000
		(c)	(*) 9,500	3,800	2,850	7,600	3,325	2375	5,700
27.	A & N Islands	(a)							
		(b)							
		(c)							
28.	Chandigarh	(a)	22,500	15,000	7,000	20,000	12,000	5,000	17,000
		(b)	1,50,000	1,10,000	50,000	1,25,000	75,000	40,000	1,10,000
		(c)	1,000	400	300	800	350	250	600
29.	Pondicherry	(a)							
		(b)							
		(c)							

Legend:- (a) Cash grant; (b) Cash in lieu of land; (c) Annuity.

Sl. No.	State/UT		Uttam Yudh Sewa Medal	Yudh Sewa Medal	Sena/Nao Sena/Vayu Sena Medal	Mentionin Despatches	PVSM	AVSM	VSM
1.	Andhra Pradesh	(a)	10,000	4,000	3,000	2,000	15,000	7,000	3,000
		(b)	65,000	30,000	20,000	10,000	100,000	50,000	20,000
		(c)	350	250	250	150	400	300	250
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	(a)	10,000	4,000	3,000	2,000	15,000	7,000	3,000

		(b)	65,000	30,000	20,000	10,000	1000,000	50,000	20,000
		(c)	350	250	250	150	400	300	250
3.	Assam	(a)	10,000	4,000	3,000	2,000	15,000	7,000	3,000
		(b)	65,000	30,000	20,000	10,000	100,000	50,000	20,000
		(c)	350	250	250	150	400	300	250
4.	Bihar	(a)		3000	2000				
		(b)							
		(c)							
5.	Delhi	(a)	10,000	4,000	3,000	2,000	15,000	7,000	3,000
		(b)	65,000	30,000	20,000	10,000	100,000	50,000	20,000
		(c)	350	250	250	150	400	300	250
6.	Goa	(a)							
		(b)							
		(c)							
7.	Gujarat	(a)	10,000	4,000	3,000	2,000	15,000	7,000	3000
		(b)							
		(c)							
8.	Haryana	(a)	10,000	6,000	3,000	2,000			
		(b)	65,000	30,000	20,000	10,000			
		(c)	2,100	1,900	600	300			
9.	Himachal Pradesh	(a)	11,000	5,000	3,000	2,000			
		(b)			20,000	10,000			
		(c)	350	250	250	150	600	350	250
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	(a)	10,000	4,000	3,000	2,000	15,000	7,000	3,000
		(b)	65,000	30,000	20,000	10,000	1,10,000	50,000	20,000
		(c)	350	250	250	150	400	300	250
11.	Karnataka	(a)	10,000	4,000	3,000	2,000	15,000	7,000	3,000
		(b)	65,000	30,000	20,000	10,000	1,15,000	50,000	20,000
		(c)	350	250	250	150	400	300	250
12.	Kerala	(a)			3000	2000			
		(b)							
		(c)							
13.	Madhya Pradesh	(a)	10,000	4,000	3,000	2,000			
		(b)	65,000	30,000	20,000	10,000			
14.	Maharashtra	(a)							
		(b)							
		(c)							

15.	Manipur	(a)	10,000	4,000	3,000	2,000	15,000	7,000	3,000
		(b)							
		(c)							
16.	Meghalaya	(a)							
		(b)							
		(c)							
17.	Mizoram	(a)	10,000	4,000	3,000	2,000	15,000	7,000	3,000
		(b)							
		(c)							
18.	Nagaland	(a)		4,000	3,000	2,000	15,000	7,000	2,000
		(b)		30,000	20,000	10,000	1,00,000	50,000	20,000
		(c)		250	250	150	400	300	250
19.	Orissa	(a)	10,000	4,000	3,000	2,000	15,000	7,000	3,000
		(b)							
		(c)							
20.	Punjab	(a)	10,000	4,000	3,000	2,000	15,000	7,000	3,000
		(b)	65,000	30,000	20,000	10,000	1,00,000	50,000	10,000
		(c)	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	2,400	2,100	1,200
21.	Rajasthan	(a)	10,000	4,000	3,000	2000			
		(b)	25 Bighas	25 Bighas					
		(c)	Irr. land 50 Bighas Unirri.	Irr. land 50 Bighas Unirri. Land					

			Land						
22.	Sikkim	(a)	10,000	4,000	3,000	2,000	15,000	7,000	3,000
		(b)	65,000	30,000	20,000	10,000	1,00,000	50,000	20,000
		(c)	350	250	250	150	400	300	250
23.	Tamil Nadu	(a)	10,000	4,000	3,000	2,000	15,000	7,000	3,000
		(b)							
		(c)							
24.	Tripura	(a)	10,000	4,000	3,000	2,000	15,000	7,000	3,000
		(b)							
		(c)							
25.	Uttar Pradesh	(a)	75,000	35,000	3,000	2,000	15,000	7,000	3,000
		(b)							
		(c)	100	100	100	50	400	300	200
26.	West Bengal	(a)	10,000	4,000	3,000	2,000	15,000	7,000	3,000
		(b)	65,000	30,000	20,000	10,000	1,00,000	50,000	20,000
		(c)	(*) 3325	2375	2375	1,425	3,800	2,850	2,375
27.	A&N Islands	(a)							
		(b)							
		(c)							
28.	Chandigarh	(a)	10,000	4,000	3,000	2,000	15,000	7,000	3,000
		(b)	65,000	30,000	20,000	10,000	1,00,000	50,000	20,000
		(c)	350	250	250	150	400	300	250
29.	Pondicherry	(a)							
		(b)							
		(c)							

Legend:- (a) Cash grant; (b) Cash in lieu of land; (c) Annuity.

(*) Note :- West Bengal Govt. introduced a new system of payment of Lump Grant-in-lieu of Annuity vide resolution No. 312-HD/22A-27/97 dated 22 April, 1998.

6. **RESERVATION FOR DEPENDENTS OF ESM IN PROFESSIONAL COLLEGES – REMOVAL OF DOMICILIARY RESTRICTIONS**

1. The serving defence personnel and ex-Servicemen face serious difficulties in getting their children admitted to professional colleges owing to varying domiciliary pre-conditions imposed by some States/Uts.
2. The point regarding domiciliary restriction had been discussed in various meetings of the KSB in past where, it was felt by some members that the pre-conditions such as minimum of one year study in the State college before claiming a seat in the professional college was necessary to prevent misuse of the concessions. It was felt that this stand may be reviewed in the light of the fact that the Armed Forces personnel have a tendency to settle down after retirement in places outside the States/Uts they initially come from and that once a persons offers adequate proof in support of this domicile status, the States/Uts should have no objection in accepting it especially when it concerns those children who have figured in merit academically.
3. The Hon'ble Raksha Mantri, vide his letter dated 10/07/98 addressed to all the State Governments had requested States/Uts which have not lifted the domiciliary restrictions, to remove the same to enable the wards of serving Defence personnel and ex-Servicemen to seek admission in professional colleges.

Reservations for Dependents of XSM in Professional Colleges Domiciliary Restrictions

RSB	State/UT	Brief Details on Domiciliary Restrictions
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Wards of Ex-Service Personnel who are Resident of AP for 5 years are eligible for admission into various courses under CAP category.
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-
3.	Assam	Parent must stay in Assam at least for 20 years.
4.	Bihar	No domiciliary restrictions.
5.	Delhi	3 years stay in Delhi for wards of ex-Servicemen. No conditions for wards of serving persons.
6.	Goa	N.A.
7.	Gujarat	Candidate should have passed XII Std. from Gujarat.
8.	Haryana	For Haryanvis and GOI Employees posted in Haryana or Chandigarh only.
9.	Himachal Pradesh	Yes, exists, except for one reserved seat in MBBS.
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	-
11.	Karnataka	(A) Serving - 1 year of service in the State Ex-servicemen - permanent resident at the time of enrolment.
12.	Kerala	No restriction.
13.	Madhya Pradesh	No restriction.
14.	Maharashtra	At the time of enrolment should be domiciled at Maharashtra
15.	Manipur	No
16.	Meghalaya	Permanent resident certificate required for all ESM other than Khasis, Garo and Jainti.
17.	Mizoram	No professional colleges in Mizoram.
18.	Nagaland	No professional colleges in Nagaland.
19.	Orissa	Domiciliary restriction exists.
20.	Punjab	There is no domiciliary restrictions.
21.	Rajasthan	No restrictions.
22.	Sikkim	No restrictions.
23.	Tamil Nadu	Wards of serving/ex-service personnel who are natives of TN

alone are eligible.

24. Tripura 10 years for appearing in joint entrance examination.
25. Uttar Pradesh No restrictions.
26. West Bengal No restrictions in Engg. colleges only.
27. Andaman and Nicobar -
UT
28. Chandigarh UT No restrictions.
29. Pondicherry UT 1. Serving in UT
2. ESM with 5 years stay in UT.

CHAPTER-III

OBSERVATIONS/ RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Committee note that the assurance was given in 1995, but the fulfilment of assurance has taken quite a long time and certain demands still require to be addressed to by the State Governments seriously. The representative of the Ministry of Defence also conceded that there was time lapse in implementing the assurance. Ironically, Kargil conflict has prompted the Government to view the difficulties faced by the Defence personnel both serving and ex-servicemen in different perspective.

2. The Committee learn that the Committee on Problems of Ex-Servicemen other than those relating to pensions was constituted on 9th July 1992 with the following members:-

1. Addl. Secretary, Ministry of Defence	Chairman
2. Addl. Secretary, Deptt. of P&PW	Member
3. Addl. Secretary, Ministry of Finance	Member
4. Addl. Secretary, Ministry of Law	Member
5. JS(Ad)/CAO, Ministry of Defence	Member
6. JS,DOP&T	Member
7. Addl. CGDA	Member
8. Addl. FA(P), Ministry of Defence(fin)	Member
9. DG Resettlement	Member

3. The Committee however are surprised, though the aforesaid Committee was to go into the problems of ex-servicemen and give a report, but no representative of ex-servicemen was there. The committee fail to understand why ex-servicemen were not represented in the Committee to articulate their problems. The Committee urge that in future ex-servicemen should always be associated in such matters so that their view points could be suitably considered while giving recommendations for their welfare.

4. The Committee further note that the Committee on Remainder problems of Ex-Servicemen other than those relating to pensions had altogether recommended acceptance of 32 demands (10 partly and 22 fully). At the outset, 4 demands were rejected by the Government. Later on, the Committee were informed that one of 4 demands was accepted with regard to extension of 100 % Railway Concession in the first class for gallantry award winners. However, other three recommendations have not been accepted. Allocation of seats in Medical/Dental Colleges

from Central Pool for admission of wards of Defence Personnel has in fact been reduced from 40 to 28 in case of MBBS course and from 4 to 1 in case of BDS course despite the recommendation of the Committee for an increase to 48 and 4 seats for MBBS and BDS course for wards of eligible categories. The Committee feel that the Government need to reexamine this aspect of the demands of ex-servicemen afresh as the reason for reducing the seats from the Central Pool is stated to be the Supreme Courts ruling for the reservation of 15 percent of MBBS and BDS seats for All India Entrance Examination, which culminated in the reduction of quota of seats at the Central Pool.

5. The recommendation relating to World War II Veterans was also not accepted despite the recommendation by the Committee for providing some financial assistance under the ongoing welfare activities schemes. The Committee have been apprised that the number of World War II Veterans and their widows is 99,697 and 61,917 respectively, but they are not eligible to draw pension as their short period of service ranging from 2 to 6 years did not satisfy the condition of qualifying service for grant of pensions. The Committee are dismayed by the outright rejection by the Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure) of the proposal of the Ministry of Defence for providing financial assistance under Non-Plan Budget. On the contrary, the Committee note that the States and UTs have been persuaded to provide financial assistance to these World War II veterans. Although the amount of assistance provided by the States and UTs ranges from meagre sum of Rs. 75/ p.m to Rs. 500/ p.m, the gesture made by the States/UTs can be appreciated. The Committee are distressed that the Union Government have not deemed it fit to honour those World War II veterans for service rendered by them during their youth, however short it may be, and have ignored this group of people, who had defended the country. It becomes our bounden duty in the twilight of their lives to help them financially or with some welfare measures. After the Kargil operation, the Defence Budget has been substantially hiked. The Committee therefore, feel that the Ministry of Defence would prevail upon the Ministry of Finance to agree to their proposal for providing some reasonable assistance to the World War II Veterans under Non- Plan Budget. The Union Government cannot shirk its responsibility towards them, as looking after their welfare is not for States alone. If the State Governments can extend some help, the Committee feel why the Union Government cannot take inspiration from other countries, where the War Veterans are taken care of. Some provisions could be made out of Flag Day Fund for welfare of World War II veterans too, if no separate organisation for these World War II veterans can be set up. The Committee would like the Government to set up a veterans organisation which can be funded partially by Government and the rest through donations by the companies and individuals. The Committee feel that such an organisation can take care of the needs of welfare of the World War II veterans.

6. The Committee have been informed that CSD Canteen facilities are provided in remote areas, where there are no army stations, but where there are large concentrations of servicemen. CSD

Canteen facilities have been opened in different parts of the country, after the recommendation by the Committee. The Committee, however, have not been apprised why in some place only extension counter has been opened. The Committee, therefore, recommend that these extension counters be upgraded especially at Ghazipur as it is reported that a large number of ex-servicemen hail from this place. The Committee also recommend that some criteria may be fixed for remote areas where CSD Canteen facilities are to be provided.

7. The Committee have been informed that Defence Service Officers'Institutes (DSOIs) are private bodies and are opened and run with the Defence Service Officers Welfare Fund. The Committee are not satisfied with the stand taken by the Government that the Ministry has no role further than requesting the DSOWF to open more institutes. The Committee desire that the Ministry should take some positive steps to help in setting up of such institutes.

8. The Committee note that Soft Seed Capital Assistance (SSCA) was provided to ex-servicemen for road transport and small scale industries by the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI). A total sum of Rs. 21.89 crores has been disbursed in 4865 cases as per the information received by the Ministry. It has also been reported that a sum of Rs. 1.56 crores is outstanding against road transport loan. The Committee have also been apprised that the Ministry of Defence have decided not to re introduce SSCA till recovery of transport loan improves, as they fear resumption would only further increase the over dues. The Committee find that a sum of Rs. 1.56 crore is outstanding as road transport loan and no timely action has been taken to recover those dues. The Committee desire that responsibility should be fixed for such negligence. Default by a few should not be a reason for discontinuing the financing programme. The Committee fail to understand why punitive measures were not taken against the defaulters immediately which could have prevented others from defaulting. If the State of Tamil Nadu can impound the vehicles, the other States can also be asked to take punitive action against the defaulters. The Committee would like to know why Government failed in instructing the other States in doing so. The Committee have been apprised that loan facilities provided to Ex-servicemen for road transport under SSCA are being enjoyed by the unscrupulous/elements who obtain loan in the name of Ex-servicemen. The Committee strongly recommend that transport rules may be made so as to check that the genuine Ex-servicemen only apply and receive the loan under SSCA for starting the road transport business. But for the act of these small number of defaulters, other genuine beneficiaries should not be punished. The Committee therefore, urge the Government to re-introduce this facility and simultaneously make necessary provisions for suitable legal action against defaulters.

9. The Committee are happy to note that 516 service trades have been equated with that of civil trades. The Committee however are eager to know how many ex-servicemen have been benefited as

a result of this equation or whether the entire matter has been confined to paper only. The very upbringing of soldiers makes them a stranger to the civilian occupations. As such, unless and until there is Government's intervention, the soldiers left to themselves will not find an easy entry into this field. The Committee are optimistic that remaining 93 trades would also be expeditiously equated in near future with the civil trades and more and more ex-servicemen will gain suitable employment in the civil occupations.

10. The Committee have been apprised that the matter regarding lateral induction of Armed Forces Personnel in Central Para Military Forces (CPMF) and State Police Forces is not finding favour with the Ministry of Home Affairs and the State Governments. It is a well known fact that armed forces personnel are trained in different disciplines, trades and their intelligence, training and skill in handling different kinds of weapons can be suitably used after they retire. Many States are besieged with multiple problems like terrorist activities, insurgency, naxalite problems etc. It is true that the tradition, ethos and culture of army are different from those of the Central Para Military Forces or the State Police Forces. Though, training of the armed personnel is basically oriented towards defence of the country, they are also deployed in different parts of India, especially in North Eastern State to suppress the separatist movements of different outfits as in Nagaland, Assam, Tripura, Manipur in close cooperation with CPMF. The expertise acquired by them in these States as also in J & K should not go in vain. The Committee do not concur with the reservations of Ministry of Home Affairs in regard to lateral induction of armed forces into Central Para Military Forces, particularly because of their ethos and culture. Given the opportunity, the soldiers will be able to orient themselves to the discipline of CPMF and the former will not be militarised, as apprehended because of their induction. The Committee also note that the Ministry of Defence are also of the firm view that lateral inductions of ex-service personnel should be done and urge the Government to take up the matters with the State Government so that they are motivated to take some concrete steps in this direction. The Committee urge that the Ministry of Home Affairs should reexamine the entire matter with an open mind and ensure that reemployment is provided in CPMFs to as many ex-servicemen, as is reasonably possible.

11. The Committee have observed that Artificial Limb Centre (ALC) Pune, Artificial Limb Sub Centre (ALSC) Delhi and ALSC Lucknow are provided with well equipped latest tools and equipment. The Committee also note that 3 such centres are being raised at Chandi Mandir, Guwahati and Bangalore. The Committee hope these sub-centres would be ready in time so that the recipients of artificial limbs of these areas need not travel long distances for check ups.

12. The Committee note that earlier an ALSC was proposed to be set up at Calcutta which has now been replaced by Guwahati. The Committee would like the Government to set up an ALSC at Calcutta also, as it is already an important city, which can look after the interest of

entire eastern States and upgrade the existing centres like National Institutes of Orthopaedics etc. functioning in Calcutta under Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Health.

13. The Committee also urge the Government to cover the injured ex-servicemen under the National Policy of Handicapped persons instead of leaving them at the mercy of State Governments for their rehabilitation and resettlement. If need be, NGOs working in this respect be associated with the rehabilitation and resettlement of those injured/disabled soldiers.

14. The Committee note with dismay that some major States have not bothered to work for the betterment of ex-servicemen, especially in case of amendment of Rent Control Act, Land Tenancy Act. The Committee also note that some states also do not provide for reservation for widows/ex-servicemen etc for house sites/houses. The Committee further note that some states have not yet removed domiciliary restrictions for dependents of Ex-Servicemen in professional colleges. The Committee have also been informed that the State Governments were asked several times to carry out the needful in connection with the above demands of ex-servicemen. The Committee would urge the State Governments to address these problems of the ex-servicemen as the Committee find that only political will of the Government is required to carry out the necessary changes in the Acts.

15. The Committee also urge the Government to evolve a uniform mechanism to be monitored through the Command headquarters with regard to surplus land available in a particular State so that the State could allot land to the ex-servicemen according to their number in the State.

16. The Committee are of the view that there should be uniformity in the benefits given to ex-servicemen by various States and urge that more funds should be allocated for rehabilitation of ex-servicemen with proper guidelines to States so that they also adhere to the uniformity principle. The Committee are happy to note that Government has taken certain steps to bring uniformity in matter relating to the facilities extended to ex-servicemen both at Centre and States. The Committee would like that urgent steps are taken to implement the recommendations made by the Committee set up under the direction of Prime Minister and Chaired by Minister of Defence to equalise the State Governments grants and relief in monetary terms to War Veterans so that all including the lowest rung of officers do not encounter any difficulties in receiving the grants, reliefs and other welfare measures.

The Committee desire that the Committee already constituted under the chairmanship of Defence Minister should hold meetings at least once in six months to oversee the welfare measures taken and proposed to be taken at State/UT/National level.

17. The Kargil Operation has compelled the entire nation to ponder seriously over the problems of our servicemen as well as the ex-servicemen. Thanks to the electronic media, the war front materialized in the drawing rooms touching an emotional chord in

the hearts of the people. It made us think of those who sacrifice their own lives so that others live in peace. The country has learnt not only about the indomitable courage of our soldiers but also about the lapses and deficiencies of the Government. We hear from the media that the Government has announced a number of packages unparalleled in the past for those who died or were incapacitated in the front. While appreciating that the welfare measures are many, the Committee are concerned that it is at the implementation stage, that the problems arise; it takes months before the benefits of the schemes actually reach those who are entitled to it. In many cases, the soldier is not clear about his entitlements and is not in a position to approach the authorities. The welfare measures announced should not be lost in the labyrinth of red tapism and bureaucratic wrangles but should definitely reach the deserved at the earliest. In fact, while declaring packages of relief, Government should ensure that such reliefs are brought at the door steps of the disabled ex-serviceman and he actually gets that. The Committee would like the Government to think about it seriously and issue necessary instructions to the Re-settlement Directorate to give out material information about their entitlement to the welfare measures and help those affected in representing their cases in right manner to the authorities concerned without loss of time.

18. The Committee are happy to learn that a plethora of funds for the benefit of war veterans which include ex-servicemen also are being collected at various levels throughout the country. The Committee, however, feel that there is no centralised fund for all defence forces combining the three wings. There is always an apprehension that the funds are mis-utilised or the deployment of such funds is duplicated. The Committee are of the view that there should be an institutionalised approach to the question of rehabilitation by setting up of a centralised body having a clear cut chalked out programme of rehabilitation including the medical, insurance, education, housing, loans, etc. Such a body will receive funds from the Government as well as citizens alike and will be accountable to the Re-settlement and Rehabilitation Boards. It should be ensured that such a body is not subjected to bureaucratic or political control and though centralised at the apex in planning and programme, but ought to be highly decentralised at the lower rung of implementation. The Committee would like the Government to constitute a permanent commission for Ex-Servicemen as in the case of backward commission etc. So that it could regulate, monitor and recommend.

19. Finally apart from major war like events like Kargil, many of our armed personnel are deployed in low intensity conflicts within the country, the casualties and disabilities in case of which are often very high. It is absolutely necessary that their sacrifices for the cause of nation are recognised and their rehabilitation and re-settlement programme also attract the serious attention of the Government. In no case, they should be ignored, irrespective of whether they were disabled, incapacitated in the war front or within the country while flushing out terrorists or suppressing insurgents. After all, they belong to the same armed forces and they have received the

same rigorous training as their brethern who were considered war heroes by virtue of their being in the war front. In no case the armed forces disabled or physically incapacitated should feel discriminated against and demoralised. The Committee urge the Government to look towards their welfare, rehabilitation and re-settlement in the same way as that of the war heroes.

New Delhi;
Dated: May 5, 2000
Vaisakha 15,1922(Saka)

Dr. S. Venugopal
Chairman,
Committee on Government Assurances.

Recommendations which have been accepted and implemented

- 1. PSUs to obtain contract security from DGR or State Ex-servicemen Corporations: Department of Public Enterprises have issued instructions to all Ministries/Departments to engage security personnel in PSUs from ex-servicemen security agencies sponsored by DGR or State Ex-servicemen Corporations.**
- 2. Medical facilities to ex-servicemen/dependents through Armed Forces Hospitals: Budget for Medical facilities has been increased to cater for medicines for ex-servicemen, Service HQrs have set up 24 MI Rooms and 10 Dental Centres at stations having large population of ex-servicemen.**
- 3. Duty-free import of therapeutic gadgets by disabled ex-servicemen: Ministry of Finance have clarified that items required by disabled and other categories of physically handicapped and permitted to be imported duty free.**
- 4. Financial assistance to ex-servicemen/dependents for treatment of serious diseases: Managing Committee of Armed Forces Flag Day Fund have approved that 60% of the actual cost of treatment may be paid to ex-servicemen/dependents.**
- 5. Upward revision of monetary allowance of pre-Independence gallantry awards: Government orders have been issued on 30th March, 1994, revising monetary allowances as recommended by the Committee.**
- 6. Priority for admission in Kendriya Vidyalayas for wards of ex-servicemen: Kendriya Vidyalayas Sangathan has issued instructions for giving one time facility for admitting the children of ex-servicemen, restricted to two children per ex-servicemen, in Kendriya Vidyalayas at the place of resettlement if the class strength is below 45.**
- 7. Maintenance of reservation for ex-servicemen: The Department of Personnel and Training (DOP&T) have issued instructions on 1st December, 1994 clarifying that the percentage of reservation for ex-servicemen will remain the same as at present.**

- 8. Statutory backing etc. for implementation of reservations for ex-servicemen: The method of effecting available reservation for ex-servicemen has been examined by DOP&T. The DOP&T have decided that the percentage of reservation of ex-servicemen should remain the same as at present. An ex-servicemen selected under the reservation provided for them should be placed in the appropriate category viz. SC/ST/OBC/General Category depending upon the category which he belongs. Instructions have been issued in this regard by DOP&T to all Ministries/Departments.**

- 9. Enhancement of monetary allowance attached to the post-independence gallantry awards: Government orders have been issued on 31st January 1995, revising monetary allowances as recommended by the Committee.**

Recommendations which have not been accepted

- 1. Increase in allocation of seats in Medical/Dental Colleges from Central Pool for admission of wards of Defence Personnel.**
- 2. Counting of military service for increment and promotion on re-employment in civil not accepted by the Department of Personnel and Training.**
- 3. The Committee did not recommend grant of pension to World War II veterans. However, the Committee recommended that some financial assistance under the ongoing welfare activities/schemes may be given to World War II veterans. The recommendation has been examined and not found feasible.**
- 4. Extension of 100% Railway concession in the first class for the gallantry award winners (This recommendation has been accepted by the Government subsequently).**

ANNEXURE III

**TOTAL NUMBER OF EX-SERVICEMEN PLACED IN EMPLOYMENT DURING
1993 TO 1999**

SECTOR	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
CENTRAL GOVT.							
(A) Ministries/Deptt.	345	338	809	1210	85	88	25
(B) Public Sector Undertakings	308	315	290	653	254	101	48
(C) Nationalised Banks	1417	1227	999	667	522	479	238
(D) Para Military Forces	433	568	170	184	238	279	18
(E) Ordnance Factories	5	0	0	0	0	0	-
(F) Defence Security Corps	2341	2529	2812	2671	2924	4241	-
TOTAL	4849	4977	5080	5385	4023	5188	329
STATE GOVT.							
(A) State Govt. Depts.	3903	3692	3192	2613	3336	1901	999
(B) State Govt. Undertakings	990	1002	1136	1032	876	705	328
(C) Local Bodies	978	984	634	431	603	217	261
TOTAL	5871	5678	4962	4076	4815	2823	1588
PRIVATE SECTOR	6016	5802	5628	4390	5424	3306	2118
GRAND TOTAL	16736	16457	15670	13851	14262	11317	4035

**(CENTRAL GOVT +
STATE GOVT + PVT SECTOR)**

Note : Figures for 1999 are provisional.

MINUTES
SECOND SITTING

Minutes of the Second sitting of the Committee on Government Assurances held on September 1, 1998 at 11.00 hours in Committee Room No. '53', Parliament House, New Delhi.

The Committee met on Tuesday, September 1, 1998 from 11.00 hrs. to 12.50 hrs.

PRESENT

CHAIRMAN

Shri E. Ahamed

Members

2. Shri Prithviraj D Chavan
3. Shri Ganga Ram Koli
4. Shri Rupchand Pal
5. Shri Hari Kewal Prasad
5. Shri A. Venkatarami Reddy
6. Shri Sartaj Singh
7. Dr. C. Suguna Kumari

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri P.D.T. Achary - Joint Secretary
2. Shri K. Chakraborty - Deputy Secretary
3. Ms. J.C. Namchyo - Assistant Director

2. The Committee considered the following Memoranda regarding dropping of assurances:-

Memorandum No.1

Request for dropping of assurance given on March 6, 1996 in reply to SQ No.91 regarding Tapping of Non-Conventional Energy Sources.

The Committee took up for consideration the aforesaid request for dropping of the assurance in pursuance of the communication received from the Ministry of parliamentary Affairs vide their U.O. No. XVI/NCES(1) SQ 91-LS/96 dated October 25, 1996 forwarding therewith a copy of the request of the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources on the following ground:

“ It is submitted that the above mentioned Assurance is of general nature and not of a specific nature. The Assurance given by the Government in the Lok Sabha indicates the strategies, approach, policies and directions of the Ministry so that the increased decentralised power is generated through local resources in different States/regions of the country such a general promise cannot be fulfilled in specific terms.

Keeping in view the fact that the availability of resources as well as complexity of the local situations are main constraints in expanding the coverage of decentralised power and energy systems, continuous efforts are being made by devising suitable policy environment and adopting appropriate strategies not only at the national level but also by the States and Union Territories. The favourable policies and programmes of the Ministry are expected to lead to rapid growth in the utilisation of non-conventional energy sources in the country on long-term basis.”

Nothing that the assurance was of a general nature and that such a promise could not be fulfilled on specific terms, the Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources for dropping of the assurance.

Memorandum No.2 Request for dropping of assurance given on March 11, 1996 in reply to USQ No.1173 regarding Election to Panchayati Raj Institutions.

The Committee considered the aforesaid request for dropping of the assurance but could be accede to the proposal of the Ministry. The Committee were of the view that the States had not taken the elections to the Panchayati Raj Institutions seriously. The Committee were not informed clearly by the Ministry about the issues which were sub-judice in the States of Bihar, Pondicherry, Lakshadweep. The Committee observed that the last communication received from the Ministry was on August, 1997 and subsequent developments in that regard had not been communicated by the Ministry so far. The Committee were, therefore, of the view that the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment may be asked to furnish the latest position with regard to the elections to Panchayati Raj Institutions.

Memorandum No. 3 Request for dropping of assurance given on March 15, 1995 in reply to USQ No. 429 regarding Demands of Ex-Servicemen

The Committee considered the grounds advanced by the Ministry of Defence for dropping of the assurance in their OM No. 14(23)/96/US(WE)/D(RES) dated October 16, 1996. The Committee

noted that out of the nine recommendations, which were under consideration of Ministry of Defence, decision has been taken on five. The Ministry, however, requested for dropping of three recommendations relating to the lateral induction of Armed Forces Personnel in the Central/State Government assured employment up to the age of 58 years, and raising the retirement age limit in respect of JCOs/ORS on the following grounds:-

“These recommendations relates to the recruitment policy and the basic terms of engagements of service personnel and hence will have wider implications. The Army HQs have formulated proposals in this regard. This being a major policy issue required consultation with the various Ministries/Departments like MHA, DOPT & T and Ministry of Finance, it is not possible to fix any specific time frame for implementation of these recommendations. The Committee on Government Assurances are, therefore, requested to drop assurance for implementing the recommendations on these three demands.”

The Committee were not convinced by the reasons advanced by the Ministry especially that of having a wider implications, if the above demands were implemented. The Committee desired that the Ministry of Defence be asked to furnish a detailed note in this regard. As regards the demand for upgradation of the artificial centres at Delhi and Pune and setting up of the ALSC at Banglore, Calcutta and Chandigarh, which was under active consideration of the Ministry of Defence, the Committee directed that the Ministry should be asked to finalise the proposal expeditiously in consultation with the Finance Division and DG Armed Forces Medical Service.

About the six recommendations which were within the competence of the States, the Committee were of the view that a status report, State-wise should be obtained with regard to the follow up action taken in pursuance of the communication of the then Prime Minister, who had written to Chief Minister of States/Administrators of Uts to take action with promptitude on various issues relating to welfare and resettlement of ex-servicemen.

Memorandum No.4 Request for dropping of assurance given on 8.5.97 in reply to USQ No.5224 regarding Screening of Netaji Bose Documentaries.

The Committee considered the aforesaid request for dropping of the assurance, but did not see substantial grounds to concur with the Ministry's proposal. The Committee were informed that it was not possible to make any firm commitment to telecast the documentary i.e., “Enemy of Empire” produced by BBC, as no offer had been made by the producer to Doordarshan to telecast. The

Committee also noted that Netaji Research Bureau were not able to send the cassette in U-Matic to Doordarshan on the Documentary "Netaji and India's Freedom" and that telecast of the documentary was possible only when the cassette is furnished and the same is found suitable by Doordarshan. The Committee, however, took strong exceptions to the tone and spirit of certain observations of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting communicated through their U.O. No. IV/I&B (15)USQ-5224-LS/97 dated 18.5.98, and were of the view that Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, be asked to appear before the Committee to clarify.

Memorandum No.5 Request for dropping of assurance given on 28.11.96 in reply to USQ No.1040 regarding Technical Committee for Airbus.

The Committee considered the request for dropping of the aforesaid assurance in pursuance of the communication received from Ministry of Civil Aviation vide their U.O.No. H 11016/CA/42/96-ACIA-USQ-1040 dated 28.5.98. Ministry had informed that the technical Committee constituted regarding A-320 operations at Cochin had already submitted its report and had indicated a series of recommendations which involve district administration, Transport Department, Government of Kerala and many other agencies. The Committee concurred with the Ministry's view that no specific time scale could be given for implementation of the recommendation of the Technical Committee as a series of measures have been suggested which include availability of land from Port Trust authorities, blocking of rail/road traffic for landing of A-320 aircraft, technical examination of runway, etc. The Committee, therefore, acceded to the request of the Ministry of Civil Aviation to drop the assurance.

Memorandum No.6 Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Ustarred Questions tabled from February 24, 1988 to May 4, 1995 regarding National Policy on Rehabilitation for displaced tribals.

The Committee considered the request for dropping of the assurance in pursuance of the OM No. 16012/25/89-TDB dated 5 March, 1998 from Ministry of Welfare. The Committee noted that as many as eleven assurances in regard to the National Policy on Rehabilitation for Displaced Persons have been pending. The Committee did not see enough reasons to drop the assurance. As several Ministries were involved, the Committee were of the view that the representatives of the concerned Ministries be summoned to explain to the Committee the latest position in this regard.

Memorandum No.7 Request for dropping of assurance given on 16.12.1996 in reply to USQ No.3306 regarding Ring Road in Agra, U.P.

The Committee considered the above Memorandum in pursuance of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, U.O. No. III/ST(5) USQ 3306/LS/96 dated 2.7.1997 forwarding therewith a request of Ministry of Surface Transport for dropping of the assurance on the following grounds:-

“Proposal for construction of Ring Road in Agra, U.P. is at the stage of signing of agreement with Asian Development Bank who have to provide grant (technical assistance) for the feasibility study of the project. If the feasibility study okays the project, the State Government of U.P. will be requested to send an estimate for the project for approval. Execution of the project will start only thereafter meaning thereby that it will take a couple of years to start/execute and finalise this gigantic project.”

After considering the grounds advanced by the Ministry for dropping of the assurance, the Committee were of the view that the Ministry of Surface Transport be asked to furnish the latest position in regard to the construction of Ring Road in Agra to save Taj from vehicular pollution.

Memorandum No.8 Request for dropping of assurance given on December 2, 1996 in reply to USQ No.1449 regarding Introduction of courses in Hindi by IGNOU.

The Committee considered the Memorandum for dropping of the assurance in pursuance of communication received from Parliamentary Affairs vide their U.O. No. III/H.R.D.(45)USQ-1449-LS/96 dated May 16, 1997 forwarding therewith a request of Ministry of Human Resource Development to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

“That the Unstarred Question No. 1449 for 2.12.1996 had sought information on the “likely” time by which IGNOU would be in a position to offer Library Science and Tourism Courses in Hindi. Accordingly the “likely” time-schedule has already been indicated in the reply. In view of the nature of the question which centres around a futuristic and long-term goal, the reply has been furnished accordingly in prospective terms. In the given circumstances, Deptt. of Education is of the view that the reply given in response to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1449 for 2.12.1996 may kindly be treated as final reply and not as an assurance.”

The Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Deptt. of Education) for treating the reply to USQ No. 1449 as final reply, and not as assurance.

Memorandum No.9

Request for dropping of assurance given on May 6, 1997 in reply to USQ No.4790 regarding Voluntary Organizations.

The Committee considered the request for dropping the above assurance in pursuance of the Communication received from the Ministry of Environment & Forests vide their F. No. 7/6/97-E.E. dated 21.5.98 on the following grounds:-

“The information asked for by the Hon’ble Member of Parliament was required to be called from all the State/Union Territory Governments.

Accordingly all the State/Union Territory Governments were requested to provide the information. In spite of Ministry’s best efforts, information has still not been received from 11 State/UTs. Even in those cases where the States/UT have responded, the information furnished by them cannot be considered as complete. Since the ‘Voluntary Organisations’ working for the development of environment and protection of wildlife in the country are not obliged to register themselves with the State or the Central Government, it is very difficult to provide exact number of organisations. In so far as details regarding financial assistance to these organisations are concerned, the Ministry of Environment & Forests itself provides financial assistance to thousands of Voluntary Organisations every year under its various programmes like National Environment Awareness Campaign, Eco-clubs, Grants-in-aid to Professional Societies, Seminars/Symposia/Workshop, Environmental Information System etc. Besides this, the States/Union Territories also provide financial assistance to these organisations.

While on the one hand it is almost impossible to provide exact information about the number of organisations working in these areas of activities, the information regarding financial assistance provided to each of these organisations during the last three years would run into several thousands of pages. It is obvious that the efforts needed to compile with information for fulfillment of assurance will not be commensurate with the result.”

After discussing the matter in detail, the Committee were of the view that a Status Report be obtained from the Ministry in this regard. The Committee also decided to summon the representatives of the Ministry of Environment & Forest to indicate the latest position.

Memorandum No.10

Request for dropping of assurance given on Nov. 24, 1992 in reply to USQ No.32 regarding Alleged Fund Raising by Nehru Homeopathic Medical College Delhi.

The Committee lastly took up for consideration the above Memorandum regarding alleged irregularities in the collection of money for the silver jubilee celebration of the Nehru Homeopathic Medical College. The Committee agreed to drop the assurance, as the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare have no jurisdiction over Nehru Homeopathic Medical College (NHMC) and Director Health Services, which are under the administrative control of Delhi Administration.

The Committee thereafter considered the draft tour programme prepared by the Secretariat. The Committee decided to visit Mumbai, Calicut, Chennai and Hyderabad from 7th October to 13th October, 1998.

The Committee also decided to hold their next sitting (Third sitting) on Saturday, 19th September, 1998 at 3 P.M.

The Committee then adjourned.

**MINUTES
SECOND SITTING**

MINUTES OF THE SECOND SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCE HELD ON FEBRUARY 7, 2000 AT 15.00 HOURS IN COMMITTEE ROOM 'C', PARLIAMENT HOUSE ANNEXE, NEW DELHI.

The Committee met on Monday, February 7, 2000 from 1500 hrs. to 1600 hrs.

PRESENT

CHAIRMAN

Dr. S. Venugopal

MEMBERS

2. Shri E. Ahamed
3. Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi
4. Adv. Uttamrao Dhikale
5. Shri Brahma Nand Mandal
6. Shri Sudarsana E.M. Natchiappan
7. Shri Rupchand Pal
8. Shri Sukhdeo Paswan
9. Shri Jitendra Prasada
10. Shri Maheshwar Singh

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri P.D.T. Achary - Joint Secretary
2. Shri K. Chakraborty - Deputy Secretary
3. Ms. J.C. Namchy - Assistant Director

At the outset, the Chairman apprised the members of the enormous task ahead within a short time as more than 1200 assurances were pending. Members were informed that there were a large number of assurances which had outlived their significance due to efflux of time or there were assurances which involved policy matter and hence are yet to be implemented. The members were also informed that the then Minister of State for Railways, Parliamentary Affairs, Planning and Programme Implementation had addressed a letter to the Chairman on March 1, 1999 for dropping of more than 100 assurances and the Committee would like to consider them in batches at their sittings.

The Committee then considered the following memoranda for dropping of assurances:-

Memorandum No.1 Request for dropping of assurances given on March 22, 1990 in reply to USQ No.1777 regarding changes in Postal and Telegraphic Laws.

The Committee considered the aforesaid request for dropping of the assurance in pursuance of the request of the Ministry vide letter D.O. No. 4(1)/99-Imp.-I dated March 1, 1999. The Committee noted that the assurance was given on March, 1990, but it was still pending. The Committee were informed by the Ministry through the aforesaid communication that a new Committee set up in August, 1998 for examining the issues relating to Indian Post Office Act, in the light of technological developments and new policy perceptions, had given its recommendations, which the Ministry was processing. The Committee were not in favour of dropping the assurance solely because it involved change in policy perceptions. Instead it was decided that the Ministry of Communications may be asked to provide the latest position in pursuance of the recommendations given by the new Committee.

Memorandum No.2 Request for dropping of assurance given on May 9, 1994 in reply to USQ No.6707 regarding Publishing of India's map by US Company.

In pursuance of the request received from Ministry of External Affairs for dropping of the aforesaid assurance, the Committee noted that the Ministry were unable to locate M/s.P.C. Globe, a US company which has published a map of India excluding Jammu & Kashmir. The Foreign Secretary had also written to Shri Chitta Basu, M.P. for further details, but nothing has been heard so far.

Since the assurance could not be implemented in the absence of relevant details, the Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry to drop the assurance.

Memorandum No. 3 Request for dropping of assurance given on Dec. 14, 1994 in reply to USQ No. 1140 regarding Voters List.

The Committee took up for consideration the above memorandum for dropping of the assurance in pursuance of a request of Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs:-

“The assurance is pending complete fulfillment for want of requisite information from the State of Assam. The same is still awaited despite several reminders at various levels, including two at the level of Minister to Chief Minister.”

The Committee was not in favour of dropping the assurance on the ground that the State of Assam had not forwarded the requisite information.

The Committee desired to know from the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs about the details of follow up action taken alongwith the latest position to enable them to decide about the matter.

Memorandum No.4 Request for dropping of assurance given on March 15, 1995 in reply to USQ No.429 regarding Demands of Ex-servicemen.

The Committee considered the grounds advanced by the Ministry of Defence for dropping of the aforesaid assurance on the following grounds:-

“The assurance relates to the recommendations of high level empowered Committee constituted to review the difficulties faced by the Armed Forces pensioners and the Committee constituted to consider demands of Ex-servicemen other than those relating to pensioners. The assurance has been proposed for dropping after giving comprehensive details/implementation reports in respect of various issues raised in the matter to the Lok Sabha Secretariat. Since some of the recommendations made by the Committee are required to be examined and implemented by the State Governments & other Ministries/Departments, the implementation is likely to take more time.”

The Committee did not accede to the request of the Ministry to drop the assurance and were of the view that the representations of the Ministry may be summoned before the Committee to clarify the position.

Memorandum No.5 Request for dropping of assurance given on March 29, 1995 in reply to USQ No.2274 regarding Voters List in Maharashtra.

The Committee considered the above memorandum in pursuance of the request received from Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs :

“The assurance is pending complete fulfilment for want of information from the State of West Bengal. The State of West Bengal has been reminded at the level of Minister”

The Committee were not convinced by the reasons advanced by the Ministry in favour of dropping of the assurance and observed that issues relating to the preparation of voters list, the deletion of the names of those who could not prove their citizenship, raised in Memo 3 and Memo 5 should be taken together after receiving the latest information from the Ministry concerned. The

Committee may also visit the concerned States, if found necessary, to have first had information about the problems encountered in dealing with such a sensitive subject.

Memorandum No.6 Request for dropping of assurance given on August 29, 1996 in reply to USQ No.3438 regarding Voters List in Maharashtra.

The Committee took up for consideration the aforesaid request for dropping of the assurance as requested by the Ministry of Food on the following grounds: _

“ The information was to be collected from the State Governments/Uts. The Assurance could not be fulfilled, as information was not received from the States of Bihar and Manipur. In the present context, the Assurance has lost its relevance, as Government of India has decided to do away with the practice of prescribing limit on number of wholesale dealers to be licensed by the State Government/Uts Administration and they have been requested to appoint adequate number of licensed dealers looking into their terrain, density of population, backward traders etc. In fact, in the present context no useful purpose will be served if we proceed further to fulfill the assurance in view of our aforesaid decision. Accordingly the above assurance, where Central Government has no role to play, need not be pursued and dropped as the situation has changed subsequent to raising the above question.”

Nothing that the assurance has lost its relevance, in view of the decision by the Government to do away with the practice of prescribing limit on number of wholesale dealers for licensing by the respective State Govts./Uts, the Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry of Food for dropping of the assurance.

The Committee thereafter considered the draft tour programme prepared by the Secretariat. The Committee decided to postpone the Study Tour to Bangalore and Hyderabad scheduled from 12 to 16 February, 2000 in view of the ensuing Assembly elections as the members will be busy.

The Committee then adjourned.

**MINUTES
FIFTH SITTING**

MINUTES OF THE SECND SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCE HELD ON APRIL 4, 2000 IN COMMITTEE ROOM 'E', PARLIAMENT HOUSE ANNEXE, NEW DELHI.

The Committee met on April 4, 2000 from 1500 hrs. to 1615 hrs.

PRESENT

CHAIRMAN

Dr. S. Venugopal

MEMBERS

2. Shri Haribhai Chaudhary
3. Shri Padam Sen Choudhary
4. Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi
5. Adv. Uttamrao Dhikale
6. Shri Brahma Nand Mandal
7. Shri Sudarsana E.M. Natchiappan
8. Shri Rupchand Pal
9. Dr. Prasanna Kumar Patasani
10. Shri Manoj Sinha

SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|---------------------|---|--------------------|
| 1. | Shri P.D.T. Achary | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Shri K. Chakraborty | - | Deputy Secretary |
| 3. | Km. J.C. Namchyo | - | Assistant Director |

REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

1. Shri T.R. Prasad, Defence Secretary
2. Shri S.K. Mishra, Additional Secretary (M)
3. Shri K.G. Goel, Joint Secretary
4. Mrs. Rita Khorana, Director

The Committee took oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Defence in connection with an assurance given on March 15, 1995 in reply to USQ No. 429 by the then Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence regarding Demands of Ex-Servicemen.

A verbatim record of sitting has been kept.

The Chairman thanked the officials of the Ministry of Defence for their cooperation and valuable information given to the Committee and also for free and frank views offered on various points raised by the Members.

The Committee decided to undertake a study tour w.e.f May 23, 2000 to May 29, 2000 to Chennai, Pondicherry, Tirupati, Hyderabad and Bangalore.

The Committee then adjourned.

APPENDIX-IV

MINUTES SEVENTH SITTING

MINUTES OF THE SEVENTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCE HELD ON MAY 4, 2000 AT 15.00 HOURS IN COMMITTEE ROOM 'E', BASEMENT, PARLIAMENT HOUSE ANNEXE, NEW DELHI.

The Committee met on May 4, 2000 from 1500 hrs. to 1600 hrs.

PRESENT

CHAIRMAN

Dr. S. Venugopal

MEMBERS

2. Shri Haribhai Chaudhary
3. Shri Padam Sen Choudhry
4. Shri Brahma Nand Mandal
5. Shri Sudarsana E.M. Natchiappan
6. Shri Rupchand Pal
7. Shri Ravindra Kumar Pandey
8. Shri Sukhdeo Paswan
9. Shri Maheshwar Singh

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri P.D.T. Achary - Joint Secretary
2. Shri K. Chakraborty - Deputy Secretary
3. Ms. J.C. Namchy - Assistant Director

2. The Committee considered the draft First Report and adopted the same after slight amendment. The Committee authorised the Chairman to present the report during the Current Session of Parliament.

3. The Committee then adjourned.