

REVIEW AND REPORT ETC. OF HINDUSTAN
HOUSING FACTORY LTD.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING
(SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : I beg to lay on
the Table a copy each of the following
papers (Hindi and English versions) under
sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Com-
panies Act, 1956 :—

- (1) Review by the Government on the
working of the Hindustan Housing
Factory Limited, New Delhi, for
the year 1969-70.
- (2) Annual Report of the Hindustan
Housing Factory Limited, New
Delhi, for the year 1969-70 along
with the Audited Accounts and the
comments of the Comptroller and
Auditor General thereon. [Placed
in Library. See No. LT-641/71.]

12.40 hrs.

*DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—1971-72—
Contd.

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE—Contd.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI
JAGJIVAN RAM) : Sir, I was talking the
other day about the tragic developments in
Bangla Desh. The resurgence of sentiments
for Bangla Desh after the brutal intervention
by West Pakistan military forces had exposed
in all its nakedness the colonialist design of
the present regime in West Pakistan. It has
further proved that the root of democracy
is too deep and too strong to be sapped by
a military rule of nearly a quarter of a
century.

The people of Bangla Desh are manfully
resisting the efforts of the Pakistan junta to
suppress freedom and democracy. The
terror which has been unleashed on Bangla
Desh has stirred the conscience of the
world. I can well appreciate the anger of
hon. Members. The bravery and heroism
of those engaged in this struggle is widely
admired and applauded. The House has
expressed its support and sympathy for our
friends in distress. A significant percentage
of the population of Bangla Desh has been
forced out and has sought shelter in India.

Shri Viswanathan described this exodus as
demographic aggression against India. Shri
H. M. Patel called it an undeclared war on
India. It is clear that the Pak Army is
engaged in a ruthless genocide of the people
of Bangla Desh and is in the process moun-
ting a serious threat to our economy, to our
society and to the basic principles which our
Constitution enshrines. The values we
cherish and the commitment we have made
for our own social and economic develop-
ment, are in jeopardy. Government are
alive to their responsibility to meet this
threat.

The House is aware of the intrusions
that have been attempted by the Pak Army
on our eastern borders. The House is also
aware of the reports which have appeared in
the press in regard to the preparations
which are being made on our western
borders, more particularly across the cease-
fire line. Hon. Member, Shri Tombi Singh,
drew our attention to the situation in the
eastern sector. He mentioned particulary
Pakistan plans to train and launch some
Naga and Mizo hostiles for disrupting
tranquility in this part of our country. Hon.
Members, Shri Inderjit Malhotra and Shri
Shamim Ahmed, desired greater attention to
be paid to the defence of Kashmir and asked
for vigilance against Pakistani infiltrators to
be intensified.

The House is aware of the frantic
attempts which are being made by the
Pakistani military junta to raise new regi-
ments, to conscript their youth and to
procure military hardware, arms and ammu-
nitions stealthily or through the agency of
their friends in some countries. All these
preparations are being made with a view to
extinguishing the flame of freedom and
democracy on this sub-continent. We hope
that those who are helping them in this
effort are conscious of their responsibilities
and are aware of the purpose for which
these death-dealing weapons are being
procured.

We have had occasions to discuss these
threats to our security in this House. I can
only say that we keep on reviewing these
matters from day to day and I can assure the
House that vigilance has been strengthened
all along the eastern and western borders,
and every precaution has been taken to
defeat all possible manoeuvres on the part

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

of our adversaries. Our security forces have instruction to deal firmly with infiltrators and other hostile elements which may attempt to intrude into our territory. Our people on the borders, whether it is in Kashmir, Jammu, Nagaland, Meghalaya or anywhere else, are conscious of the stakes.

The brutal methods employed by the Pak Army in Bangla Desh have strengthened their determination to resist and defeat the Pak manoeuvres. The demand for the early recognition of Bangla Desh by Government has been reiterated by various sides of the House. We are aware of the felling in the country on the question of recognition of Bangla Desh. Our Prime Minister has explained Government's stand on the matter on more than one occasion in the House and outside. There is nothing to add to what the Prime Minister has said on the subject.

One thing, however, is clear. The indomitable courage of the freedom fighters of the Mukti Fouj will ultimately succeed in establishing Bangla Desh. Reports trickling from across the border indicate how manfully freedom fighters are harassing the Pakistan Army. One guerilla, one commander of the Mukti Fouj is worth many marauders of the imperialist army of Pakistan.

With the ever increasing activities of the freedom fighters, it is clear that the military junta will not be permitted to continue their exploitation of the people of Bangla Desh and perpetuate their colonial rule there. In their determination to establish a democratic order in Bangla Desh, freedom fighters have all our sympathy and support.

There has been insistent demand for improving our defence preparedness by Shri Indrajit Gupta and others. Many hon. Members complained that while the report of the Ministry of Defence has given details of the threats to our security, sufficient information has not been given in regard to the arrangements made by us to meet them. I think, if the details given in the report are studied carefully, it will be found that there is no cause for worry. For obvious reasons, caution has to be exercised in disclosing our strength and our preparations. I can, however, safely say that in every arm and in every role, we are more than a match for our adversary. The House has naturally not been apprised of

the enormous exertions our armed forces have made to improve their skill in the use of the equipment which has been given to them. Every effort has been made to enhance the mobility of our land forces, to increase the fire power of the infantry and artillery and of our armoured units. Our anti-tank capability has been enhanced by the introduction of missile units. New methods of weapon training and battle inoculation have been introduced. Altogether, the defensive capability and striking force of the Indian army cannot but cause serious concern to our adversaries.

It is true that Pakistan has acquired Mirage—III aircraft. Our Air Force has fully taken into account the increase in Pakistani air power. The strength and capability of our holdings are superior to Pakistani acquisitions. Our fighter bomber squadrons have been progressively modernised. We have recently carried out a reorganisation of Commands in the Air Force. Operational exercises including weapon Meets are being continually conducted to ensure a state of operational readiness. Heavy repair and depot maintenance facilities have been modernised and augmented. I have every reason to hope that as a result the rate of serviceability of our aircraft will improve. The measures which have been taken do not merely increase the striking power of our Air Force. They also ensure the most effective coordination of air operations in support of actions on land and on high seas.

Some concern has also been expressed in regard to the strength of our Navy. It is true that Pakistan has acquired new capabilities in the field of submarine warfare. We also have improved our capabilities. Our Navy has now a submarine arm. Its anti-submarine role has been strengthened by acquisition of modern anti-submarine aircraft. The Navy also holds and operates missile carrying crafts. The dockyard at Bombay is being modernised. A new dockyard is under construction at Visakhapatnam. The Navy too has streamlined their provisioning procedures and maintenance facilities. I am sure our Navy is in a state of readiness to give a good account of itself.

Our anti-aircraft defences have been modernised and strengthened. We now have surface-to-air guided weapon complexes installed in vital areas. Steps are also being taken to activate our civil defence

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measures. The Central Government is meeting the greater part of the expenditure on these measures. A large number of persons have volunteered for manning civil defence services.

The possibilities of procurements from abroad are somewhat limited to us. But I would like to assure the House that we are not neglecting these possibilities. Our main reliance, of course, is on ourselves. Our ordnance factories and defence undertakings are working to capacity to meet the requirements of the Services. Several new types of weapons and equipments have been developed and are being manufactured. The Defence Research and Development Organisation has made a commendable contribution. I must take the opportunity to express my appreciation of the dedication of the workers in our factories and other production establishments and their response to the situation that faces us.

Our scientists and their associates in the Defence Research and Development Organisation are making commendable efforts to make us self-reliant in our requirements. While no country, except perhaps the United States and the Soviet Union, is completely self-sufficient, most advanced countries endeavour to develop a technological viability so that they are able to establish mutually beneficial relationships with other countries. Such nations acquire a certain freedom of action because of their ability to develop equations and engage in a give and take exercise with other nations. Such viability, or to put it in other words, the scientific, industrial and technological maturity, is called self-reliance. We are expecting that such viability or maturity will be achieved by our scientists and technologists, particularly those working on our Defence laboratories and establishments, at not too distant a date. I can only assure the House that we will not allow their work to be hampered for lack of funds.

The budget before this House provides for an expenditure of Ra. 1241.66 crores to be incurred by the Defence Ministry during 1971-72. I need not go over the details of the provisions for which the approval of this House is being sought to day. It will be found that the funds I am seeking are some what larger than those provided last year. A part of the increase is on account

of pay and allowances to enable officers and men to meet increasing costs of living. We have increased the provision for the purchase of plant and machinery for ordnance factories, for the procurement of transport vehicles and for the acquisition of equipment and stores for the Army, the Navy and the Air Force. Provision has also been made for a number of developmental projects and programmes and for alleviation of hard life our officers and men have to lead in forward areas. In submitting these demands, I have been conscious of the developmental needs of our economy and of the commitments we have made to our people. I have sought to ask for only the minimum and inescapable increases in our expenditure. The House will notice that despite the increase in the threats our security, the proportion of the Defence expenditure in the total budget has declined at compared to the last year. I believe the percentage of the national income we devote to our security will also decline marginally.

I would like to remind the House that national security goes beyond deployment of Armed Forces or preparedness to meet threats to our borders; it is inter-woven with our national objectives, our national interests, and our national capacity. In the quest of national security, it will be Government's endeavour to take all these factors into account. I am sure our people led by this august House will participate in these efforts and lend their full support to them.

It is not merely security for the year for which funds are being voted which is the concern of this House. Several hon. Members have stressed its long term aspects. Emphasis has been laid on the need to keep abreast with times. The developments in the field of offensive and defensive weaponry are fast. At the same time, indigenous development of equipment takes 5 to 7 years and of sophisticated weapon systems about 7 to 10 years. This is why we have evolved the concept of a Roll-on-Plan, valid for 5 years at a time, and subject to annual review and elaboration. We have, in fact, to think in terms of a longer span of years. In some fields, our studies and projections already extend into early eighties. We are making efforts to introduce modern concepts and systems of management in the Defence Services. We are placing increasing reliance on specialisation

and are taking steps to set up and develop our own design organisations. The competence and capability of our scientists and technicians are comparable to those of their counterparts from advanced nations. We are taking steps to effect procedural and organisational improvements so that we could provide a satisfactory environment for them to contribute to our defence preparedness.

In this connection, I have noted carefully the wish of many hon. Members for our Defence Forces to acquire nuclear capabilities. We have discussed this matter in this House on a number of occasions. Our present policy is to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. In our view the possession of nuclear weapons is no substitute for our capability in the use of conventional weapons. I would like to remind the House that our military capabilities must be based on the advances we are able to make in the field of science, technology and industry. The House is aware of the position India occupies in the field of nuclear science. The House is also aware of the plans and programmes for making further advances in this field. The House, I am sure, will not wish me to say more on this subject or to lose my sense of perspective in dealing with it.

Apart from the defence of our borders, our Defence Forces have certain other responsibilities also. The House is aware of the responsibilities discharged by our defence forces in the past in a peace keeping role assigned to them by the United Nations on a number of occasions.

On April 6, 1971, while we were engrossed in our own problems, we received an urgent request from our friendly neighbour, the Government of Ceylon. Similar requests had been made by that Government to other countries. Our response was prompt. We agreed to provide all assistance that was possible within our resources. We made our helicopters available. Our naval ships assisted the Ceylonese Navy in patrolling Ceylon's coasts. Our personnel did not deal with insurgency; they provided relief for the Ceylonese personnel and assisted them in surveillance and patrol duties only. With the completion of their task, the small forces made available to the Govt. of Ceylon were withdrawn.

We have also supplied some items of equipment and stores needed by the Ceylo-

nese Defence Forces. At the request of the Ceylonese Government, we have agreed to provide training facilities to their officers. Our cooperation in this field, the House will be pleased to know, has been mutually satisfactory.

The Defence Forces have some domestic responsibilities also. They are required to go to the aid of civil power when such aid becomes necessary to meet the threat to our internal security. The Defence Forces do not relish these tasks. I am opposed to their services to be drawn upon too frequently. Shri Indrajit Gupta and Shri Samar Mukerji have made politically motivated observations. I would appeal to them not to make our Defence Forces subject matter of political debate. There is no question of the Army being used for protecting monopolies or for suppressing workers. They have, on exceptional occasions, been used at the request of the civil authorities and under their direction for supporting them in their efforts to maintain law and order and to enforce the law of the land against such elements as violate law and create a state of disorder and insecurity in society. It is the politics of violence and murder that has imposed avoidable strains on our army. I am hoping that in the context of the developing situation, attempts to disturb our tranquility and to weaken the determination of the Nation to make peaceful progress will cease and occasions for the use of Armed Forces in aid of civil power will be few and far between.

Shri Indrajit Gupta has also mentioned about the use of our Territorial Army for breaking strikes. I would like to make it clear that T. A. personnel are used only for running essential services in an emergency situation. It will be appreciated that minimum essential services have to be kept running in the larger interests of the society even in a strike situation.

13 hrs.

There is an aspect of domestic responsibilities which the Defence Forces discharge with great keenness. I am referring to the occasions when their assistance is called in by the civil authorities to deal with the consequences of unfortunate natural calamities such as in the event of earthquakes, floods and famine. There have been a number of occasions on which during the last

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year the Defence Forces have been called upon to assist. The House will remember the desilting of the Ganges Canal which was undertaken in the wake of the Alakananda floods. Our helicopters have been made available to rescue individuals who have seriously fallen ill in inaccessible areas at high altitudes ; they have helped to save a number of lives. On all such occasions, assistance is provided at the request of the civil authorities.

With your permission, I shall now refer to some problems of house-keeping, Shri Bist and Shri Parkash drew my attention to the shortfall in the strength of the territorial army. The authorised strength is about 50,000 and the actual strength is around 43,000. A committee under the chairmanship of the Maharaja of Patiala was appointed to make a review and recommend measures to deal with the problem. The recommendations made by the committee are being examined.

I am grateful to Shri Priya Ranjan Das Munsi's interest in the NCC. He wanted this organisation to be controlled exclusively by the Ministry of Defence without the intervention of the State Governments. I would like to remind him of the observations made by the Kunzru Committee in this regard. That committee was of the view that the States which are responsible for education should take an active interest in all matters concerning the corps. The association of the states with the scheme has been very helpful and the States have taken keen interest in promoting it. The NCC provides a vast field for our young men and women in schools and colleges, for the type of training which will be of great use to them in future in whatever walk of life they may be. I hope a larger number of them will take advantage of this scheme so that it covers practically the entire student community in the country.

The NCC scheme is designed to provide facilities for our young men to develop character and leadership and to help those who wish to make Armed Forces their career. We propose to increase the quota for filling the vacancies in the commissioned ranks from the NCC cadets. The NCC cadets also get some advantage when they apply for recruitment into other ranks of the three services.

Shri Birender Singh Rao suggested the

introduction of compulsory national service. I trust that he is familiar with the national service scheme and the National Sports Organisation which are operated by the Ministry of Education. I would wish these three schemes to be better integrated with one another. These together constitute in my view a better alternative to the compulsory national service that Shri Birender Singh Rao has in mind.

From the point of view of the Armed Forces, it is not necessary for us to introduce compulsion. The voluntary character of our formations is a source of strength. A sufficient number of volunteers has been forthcoming to man the Armed Forces. We have had no difficulty in keeping the Indian army young. There has however been some gap in the strength of officer cadres. We have taken remedial measures to bridge this gap.

Some hon Members have made observations on the composition of our Armed Forces. Shri Samar Mukerjee said that this should not be based on caste and religion. Shri Mulki Raj Saini said and rightly so that the distinction between martial and non-martial communities is a myth. Shri Birender Singh Rao eulogised the bravery of a company of officers and jawans. I also pay my tribute to them. He pleaded for the establishment of an Ahir regiment and also a Chamar regiment. Prof. Narain Chand Parashar on the other hand wanted a Himachal regiment to be raised. Shri Tombi Singh talked in terms of a Manipur regiment.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : A Bengal regiment also.

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM : There is demand for a Bengal regiment as well. I am not unaware of the sentimental value attached to the regimental names nor of the value of appeal to past history or to regional affiliations.

Nevertheless, it has been the policy of Government to ensure that our armed forces are broadbased and derive their strength and motivation from their loyalty to the nation. I would like to remind the House in this connection that our policy is fully effective in the air force, in the navy and in the officer ranks of the army. An element of class competition, however, has persisted

due to historical reasons in some regiments of the infantry. Into those regiments also, persons belonging to other classes are now being gradually recruited. I propose to bear this aspect in mind in determining the nomenclature we adopt for any formation we may raise in future.

Our recruitment policy has already undergone many changes. Fifteen selection boards and 68 recruiting centres have been established in different zones so as to cover all areas in the country. Quotas of recruitment have been fixed for each zone. Further steps will be taken to ensure that opportunity to serve in the armed forces is not denied to anyone who volunteers for such service and is found suitable for it merely on the ground of caste, race, religion or domicile.

The interest taken by hon. members from all parts of the House in the conditions of services of officers and men in the armed forces will warm their hearts and encourage them to do their duty. We are a developing country and our resources are limited. Our officers and men themselves appreciate that we cannot do all that needs to be done for them. We have, however, attempted to make some improvements over the recent years.

Personnel serving in forward areas or at high altitudes or in uncongenial climate, are entitled to extra rations and clothing, special compensatory allowance, free conveyance for families, retention of married accommodation by them and postal concessions. Schemes of additional annual increments have been sanctioned for personnel who have reached the maximum of their pay scales. Interim relief ranging from Rs. 15 to Rs. 45 per month for other ranks and officers was sanctioned in March 1970. In September 1970, an additional relief was provided to armed forces to the extent of Rs. 4 per month for jawans. It has also been possible to raise with effect from July 1971 the condiments allowance to troops to the level of Rs. 2.35 per man per month for units with a strength above 50 and Rs. 2.30 for man in other units.

A proposal to increase the allocation for amenities for other ranks from Rs. 25 lakhs. A year to 30 lakhs a year is under consideration. Pensionary benefits have also been liberalised. In September 1970, a scheme of death-cum-retirement gratuity was introduced as a supplement to pensions. The minimum for pensions was raised last year to Rs. 40

per month. The procedure for payment of pension has been streamlined.

Shri Braj Raj Singh complained of delay in the payment of pensions. I would like to inform the House that action is initiated one year before the date a jawan is due to retire. With a view to settle all pending matters, he is posted to the regimental centre ten days prior to the date of proceeding on leave pending retirement. He is also given four months leave and pension is payable on the expiry of this leave. There are only few cases in which verification is not complete before the leave expires. In such cases, anticipatory pension is granted.

A phased programme has been drawn up for the construction of married/separated family accommodation for JCOs and other ranks in the army and equivalent ranks in the other two services. During 1970-71, nearly, 5,000 quarters have already been constructed for them and an equal number is under construction currently.

It will be appreciated that all that is possible within our limitations is being attempted for the improvement in the service conditions of our armed forces and special attention is being paid to the requirements of other ranks, that is, jawans. If everything that is desired is not being done, it is not due to lack of intention on our part but lack of resources.

It is the duty of officers to look after the welfare of the Jawans and to create a feeling among the Jawans that they are fully cared for. The officers are fully alive to this aspect of their duty.

Mr. Ram Gopal was good enough to invite my attention to the quality of rations supplied to troops. He is aware of the care which is observed in ensuring that rations are wholesome. The foodgrains needed for the troops are procured by the Department of Food. The stocks procured are inspected by Food Laboratories of the Defence organisation. I am aware of some occasions when it has been necessary to relax the standards prescribed for rice. Even in such cases, effort has been made to ensure that the wholesome character of the product or its calorific value is not jeopardised. If the type of complaints he has mentioned are brought to my notice, the culprits will be severely dealt with.

Some hon. Members emphasized the need for improving communications in the

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hilly regions. Shri Parasher and Shri Pratap Singh brought to the notice of the House the difficulties experienced in their respective areas. There can be no two opinions about the need for opening up remote and isolated areas along our borders and providing them with facilities of modern means of communication. The need for postal, telegraph and telephone facilities in these areas cannot be over-emphasized. I shall bring this to the notice of my friend, the Minister of Communications. The Border Roads Organisation, which was set up about ten years ago, has rendered some service in this respect. This Organisation has constructed so far about 5,800 k. m. of new roads, improved about 4,000 k.m. of old roads and is now looking after the maintenance of about 7,000 k. m. of roads. These roads have made a tremendous impact on the socio-economic development of our border areas. I agree, however, with hon. Members that much more remains to be done for opening up inaccessible areas where lack of communications hampers the development of backward communities and their integration with the main-stream of our national life. I am having this problem studied in some depth.

May I, on behalf of the ex-servicemen, express to hon. Members their gratitude for the interest taken in their welfare? We have to keep our Armed Forces young. That is why servicemen are retired at a comparatively young age. Nearly 50,000 persons retire every year, out of whom more than two-third stand in need of rehabilitation assistance in one form or the other. Their training and discipline are an asset to the nation. It has been our endeavour to provide facilities for them to enter different civil vocations. Shri Chand Vakar and Rao Birendra Singh suggested re-employment of ex-servicemen in Government departments and public sector undertakings. The House will be glad to hear that a series of reservations and relaxations have been made by different Ministries and public sector undertakings and State Governments. A number of concessions have been given by the Union Government to facilitate absorption of ex-servicemen in their employment. For instance, 20 per cent of the vacancies in Class IV have been reserved for them. Similarly ten per cent of vacancies in Class III posts have been reserved for ex-servicemen. Age limits have been relaxed to the

extent of the military service rendered by ex-servicemen plus a grace period of three years. Minimum educational qualifications have also been relaxed. Reservations have been made in All India and Central Services for ECSs/SSCOs, both in respect of permanent and long term temporary vacancies. Twenty per cent of the vacancies in the IAS and IFS have been reserved for them. Twenty seven per cent of the vacancies in the IPS have also been reserved. In Class I, the reservation is to the extent of 25 per cent and Class II posts to the extent of 27 per cent. A special competitive examination is held by the UPSC exclusively for EC/SSC officers. The age limits in their case have been relaxed and the prescribed age limit i.e., 24 years is applied with reference to the year in which the officer joins his pre-Commission training. Most State Governments have extended similar concessions for appointments to posts under their control.

The concessions for ex-servicemen were reviewed at a conference of Chief Secretaries in November last year. A further review will be undertaken this year.

Special arrangements exist for inducting ex-servicemen in paramilitary forces such as the Central Reserve Police, the Industrial Security Force, the Border Security Force and the Home Guards.

Arrangements have been made and procedures have been revised to make it possible for ex-servicemen to be absorbed into different vocations within six months of their release. The House will be glad to know that during 1970-71, job opportunities were found for 23,600 ex-servicemen.

Efforts have also been made to provide orientation training to ex-servicemen for improving their employability. A scheme for their training has been drawn up in consultation with the State Governments. Under this scheme armed personnel will be enabled to join industrial training institutes six months before the date of their retirement and to continue their training for a further period of three to six months. They will be paid by Government during the period of training. Thus they will be imparted full-fledged vocational or technical training at these Institutes. I am hoping that this scheme will help ex-servicemen to set up small industries and also to provide disciplined manpower for our industries in the private and the public sectors.

The House is aware of the Special fund which has been created to provide finance on concessional terms to ex-servicemen for starting some business for employment. Such finance is available on an individual or co-operative basis. A sum of Rs. 75 lakhs was contributed to this fund during 1970-71. Thus a total sum of Rs. 8 crores is available in the fund to finance economic activities of ex-servicemen.

Shri Inderjit Malhotra made the useful suggestion for ex-servicemen to be settled in border areas. We have already been trying to do so. So far, it has been possible to settle about 140 ex-servicemen in NEFA and another 100 in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. A scheme for the settlement of ex-servicemen in the border areas of Rajasthan is under discussion with the Rajasthan Government.

The House is aware of the provision for medical care to military pensioners and their families. The scheme was sanctioned in 1966. Government have now extended the scheme to cover the provision of dental treatment and dentures.

Shri S. M. Banerjee drew my attention to a number of points concerning industrial and non-industrial workers in the Defence establishments. He is aware of the steps that have been or are being taken in regard to them. I am grateful to him for assuring the House that the Defence workers will do their duty and make their contribution to maximise the production of equipment and stores needed by the Defence Services. I have always held that in their sense of patriotism civilian workers of the Defence Ministry wherever they may be engaged are second to none. They will not regard any sacrifice too great and any work too hard when the national interest so demands. He has been pressing for what he calls a permanent negotiating machinery to be set up. I think he knows that the joint consultative machinery is doing its best to tackle these problems. I would invite him and the organisation he represents to contribute to the effectiveness of these efforts. He is always welcome to meet me.

The progress made in developing and augmenting production and in organising the production of the stores, the weapons and equipment needed by the Defence Services has been explained by my colleague, the Minister of Defence Production.

I will refer briefly to the complaints

made by Shri Shreekanth Nair in regard to the alleged discrimination in the matter of location of the public sector undertakings. I would like to clarify that sites for defence production units have been and are selected after a full study of techno-economic considerations. A full techno-economic survey has been carried out before the location for the new electronic factory under the B. E. L. was decided. A number of techno-economic criteria has been set up for this study. The suitability of a location in Kerala was considered. Judged by these criteria, the location in Kerala got a low rating. There has been no discrimination whatever against Kerala or against any other State.

Shri Sawant spoke about disparity between General Duty Officers on the on-hand and Technical Officers on the other in the Air Force. The functions and roles of these cadres are different. It is therefore, inevitable that there should be some difference in the rules regulating recruitment, and pay and allowances. I would like to add that officers for the Technical Branch are selected from amongst engineering graduates. Officers of the Flying Branch have to be paid better because of the risk and strenuous nature of their duties and because of the shorter span of the active service.

Shri D. N. Tiwary drew my attention to the implementation by the Ministry of Defence of Government's language policy. I would like to assure him that efforts are being made to increase the use of Hindi in official work. I am keeping a personal watch over the progress of these efforts. We have set up an Official Language Implementation Committee in the Ministry. This Committee is headed by a joint Secretary. Similar Committees have been set up in Services Headquarters and Inter-Service Organisations. The progress made by these committees is reviewed periodically.

It should be remembered that the arduous duty which personnel in the Armed Forces undertake at snow-bound altitudes or at places infested with health hazard or keep vigil in furious weather conditions is non-capable of adequately compensated. Any monetary compensation will be too poor a reward. The proper reward for such a service is the appreciation by the nation of the sense of patriotism which inspires the personnel of the three forces to undergo any risk for the sake of security of the country. I take this opportunity to send my compliments to all personnel of the Armed Forces

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for the splendid work that they have doing for the defence of the motherland.

I am, however, not neglecting monetary compensations within our resources. For the first time, this question has been examined in great depth by Services Headquarters. The result of their review has been integrated by the Chief of Staff. Under their guidance, a set of proposals for the Army, the Navy and the Air Force has been evolved.

These, together with the relevant study papers, have been made available to the Pay Commission. The Pay Commission will also study the problems on the spot and examine individual witness form all ranks and all Services. It is my hope that as a result the Third Pay Commission will put forward some meaningful recommendations for the benefit of our Defence Forces.

A great deal, of course, depends on the morale of our Armed Forces and the quality of their leadership. I have visited our officers and men in the forward areas. Their morale and keenness leave nothing to be desired. The leadership which is provided by the Chiefs Staff and under their direction, by the Army, Air and Naval Headquarters, is of a very high quality. The House can put its complete trust in their ability and in their dedication. They have been and are fully prepared to meet all eventualities and to fulfil all the tasks that may be assigned to them. They are second to none in their sense of patriotism.

Shri H. M. Patel referred to some whispering campaign. Nothing could be more unfair to our senior officers. I would like to state categorically that these whispers are without any foundation whatever. The responsibility for basic decisions rests not on them but on me as the Defence Minister and on Government as a whole. Such whispering campaigns have nothing but sinister motive. They are carried on with a purpose. Is it difficult to guess the source of such whispers? No one who has the interest of the nation, of the security of the country uppermost in his mind will initiate or spread such rumours. Such rumours serve the cause of the enemy more than of our own.

Shri Samar Guha thinks I am timid. He wants the Indian Army not to bite but to show its teeth. I do not believe in empty

threats. (*Interruptions*). He should know that over the recent years, the teeth-to-tail ratio of the Indian Army has been improved significantly. If and when there is real need to use the teeth to meet the threats to our security, we shall not be found wanting. Shri Samar Guha is a student of science and as such I presume he is possessed of an analytical and disciplined mind. I am afraid he has not applied his own brain while speaking on the subject and specially when bestowing his kind attention on me and the officers of the Armed Forces. He has been wrongly briefed. At Agartala, I addressed a mammoth public meeting. Shri Samar Guha can see a brief reporting of my speech at that meetings in the press. If he visits, per chance, the border area Tripura, he may ascertain from the people what was the effect of my speech there. The analogy of the lion was given at a meeting of Lions Club at Varanasi. The simile was used in relations to capitalists and workers. Perhaps it appeared attractive to the Press and they published their own version. But I do not know what he means by accusing me of "not only misleading the country but the Government on the political issue of Bangladesh." He has not said how I have done this. He has not quoted any statement or any speech by me in this regard. I have been very discreet in making any statement on the subject of recognition. The Prime Minister has been dealing with that. This accusation is without any foundation. I would not mind accusations against me, though it is a matter of common knowledge that issues like recognition of Bangladesh or of armed confrontation with another country cannot be decided by an individual minister. It can be decided only by Government. Of course, in emergency, only the Prime Minister can take such a decision. Not content with accusing me, he has dragged in Army officers. Nothing can be more sinister. He has made serious allegations against high officers of the Armed Forces without giving their names. Whether he has full facts in his possession or has been wrongly briefed, it was proper on his part when he got this information to communicate it to the Prime Minister or to me so that appropriate action could be taken.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contd): I never said 'Army officers'. I said 'high-ups'. Even that day I protested and protest today

also. I only said 'high-ups', which means other categories also.

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM : Such whispering campaigns against the officers of the Defence Forces harm the interest of the country. Obviously, Mr. Samar Guha has been wrongly advised on this issue. I may tell the House that all these allegations are baseless and unfounded.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : who is his adviser ?

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM : He is his own adviser ?

Sir, I have tried to cover, within the time at my disposal, as many points as I could. A careful note has been made of all the points that have been made by hon. members.

These shall be looked into and proper action taken.

It remains for me to thank the hon. Members for the interest they have taken in the work and life of the Defence Services. I would like only to assure the House that the resources placed at our disposal would be effectively used and to pledge that the duty assigned to us to defend the motherland and to repel all threats to our security shall be fully and faithfully discharged.

MR. SPEAKER : Let me dispose of the cut motions.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : I want cut motion No. 30 to be put separately.

MR. SPEAKER : I will put Cut motions Nos. 1 and 2 by Shri Saroj Mukherjee, Nos. 3 to 8 by Dr. Laxminarain Pandey, Nos. 9 to 16 by Sreekantan Nair and Nos. 17 to 29 by Shri S. M. Banerjee to the vote of the House.

Cut Motions Nos. 1 and 2, 3 to 8, 9 to 16 and 17 to 29 were put and negatived.

MR. SPEAKER : I will not put Cut Motion No. 30 by Shri S. M. Banerjee to the vote of the House.

Cut Motion No. 30 was put and negatived.

MR. SPEAKER : I will now put cut motions Nos. 31 to 34 by Prof. S. Saksena to the vote of the House.

Cut Motions Nos. 31 to 34 were put and negatived.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the fourth column of the order paper be granted to the President to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1972, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the Second column thereof against Demands Nos. 1 to 5, 111 and 112 relating to the Ministry of Defence."

The motion was adopted.

[The Motions for Demands for Grants which were adopted by the Lok Sabha, are reproduced below, Ed.]

DEMAND NO. 1—MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 81,19,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1972, in respect of Ministry of Defence."

DEMAND NO. 2—DEFENCE SERVICES; EFFECTIVE—ARMY

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,42,50,67,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1972, in respect of 'Defence Services, Effective—Army'."

DEMAND NO. 3—DEFENCE SERVICES; EFFECTIVE—NAVY

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 39,52,67,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1972, in respect of 'Defence Services, Effective—Navy'."

DEMAND NO. 4—DEFENCE SERVICES; EFFECTIVE—AIR FORCE

"That a sum not exceeding

[Mr. Speaker]

Rs. 1,63,30,00,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1972, in respect of 'Defence Services, Effective—Air Force'."

DEMAND No. 5—DEFENCE SERVICES, NON-EFFECTIVE

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 31,53,33,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1972, in respect of 'Defence Services, Non-Effective'."

DEMAND No. 111—DEFENCE CAPITAL OUTLAY

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,08,85,33,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1972, in respect of 'Defence Capital Outlay'."

DEMAND No. 112—OTHER CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,06,67,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1972, in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Defence'."

13.35 hrs.

MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION

MR. SPEAKER : The House will now take up discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation namely, Demand Nos. 81 to 84 and 138 and 139, for which three hours have been allotted. The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has suggested that the time may be

increased to four hours. I hope the House agrees to it. In future I am not going to accept the request for increase in time.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : The Demands of this Ministry were guillotined thrice.

MR. SPEAKER : In the case of the last Ministry the time allotted was seven hours but the time taken ten hours, an increase of three hours over the time allotted by the BAC. I feel that whenever there is any suggestion for increasing the time, it should normally go back to the BAC. Otherwise, several other business get dislocated. So, BAC are always of the view that there should be no change or departure from what they say, but that is happening every day. Now BAC fixes some time, House fixes some other time and the Minister comes out with a third suggestion for increase in time, I feel this is a bad practice.

Only Members who are present in the House and who are desirous of moving their cut motions may send their slips within fifteen minutes mentioning the serial number of the cut motion.

SHRI SHIVA CHANDIKA (Banka) : At what time is the Minister expected to reply.

MR. SPEAKER : At the end of 3½ hours. I think, half an hour is enough for him.

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH) : If you could give four hours for the debate, perhaps I could reply tomorrow in half an hour.

MR. SPEAKER : No; you have already got one hour more. All that can be done is to give 3 hours and 15 minutes to Members and 45 minutes to you.

DR. KARAN SINGH : My colleague, Dr. Mahishi, will also like to speak for about 15 to 20 minutes.

MR. SPEAKER : Do you not speak together?