19 Oral Answers

APRIL 30, 1985

and some targets have not been able to be achieved. We are trying to improve the working of the ITI with respect to this, viz. to see that timely supply of equipment is made. I am sure that with our new thrust in this direction, these projects will be completed soon.

University Recruiting Centres for Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers

*656. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has a proposal for setting up recruiting centres for officers and non-commissioned officers in each University providing priority to successful cadets of National Cadet Corps;

(b) if so, the time by which such centres will be started; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE: (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO); (a) to (c): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement

The Officer cadre to the Armed Forces is recruited through the Examinations conducted by the Union Public Service Commission and screening by the Services Selection Boards. Since the Indian Army is a voluntary force, no compulsory quota has been fixed in recruitment for any category of class or people. For the National Cadet Corps 'C' Certificate holders who qualify in the Union Public Service Commission Examination and the Services Selection Boards, 32 seats per Course (out of the total seats of 150) in the Indian Military Academy, 6 seats in the Naval Academy and 10 per cent of vacancies in the Air Force Academy have been carmarked. Till January 1985, all the National Cadet Corps 'C' Certificate holders who qualified in the Union Public Service Commission examination and the Services Selection Boards have been absorbed in the Indian Military Academy. Indeed, vacancies earmarked for them have

remained unfilled. The number of seats earmarked for them is, therefore, adequate.

2. There is no direct recruitment to the Junior Commissioned Officers cadre. Recruitment is made to the Other Ranks through the 68 Recruiting Offices functioning throughout the country. In this recruitment, the following weightage is given to National Cadet Corps certificate holders :--

- (a) NCC 'A' Certificate holders 5 marks.
- (b) NCC 'B' Certificate holders 10 marks.
- (c) NCC 'C' Certificate holders 15 marks.

3. The minimum qualifications are Matric for the matric-entry stream and fifth standard for the normal entry stream.

4. In view of adequate facilities being available for the successful cadets of the National Cadet Corps, it is not considered necessary to set up recruiting centres for Officers and other ranks in universities.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : In the statement, the hon. Minister has stated that there are 68 recruiting centres for the Army, and specially the officers, i.e. the commissioned officers go through the Union Public Service Commission. and the Services Selection Board. The National Cadet Corps's concept was a little bit diluted after the Mahajan Commission's report; nevertheless, it is still providing the strength and inspiration to a number of young men in various Universities. The University Recruiting Centres are there for the commissioned officers, i.e. for directly screening them, specially for 'C' Certificate-holders. As the Minister is aware, Certificate 'C' examination is a very tough examination in the examination days, and all the heavy equipments are handled by the cadets-just as for the Services Selection Board. So, regarding the youngsters who obtain Certificate 'C', I find from the statement that only 32 out of the 150 get into the Indian Military Academy. Will the Minister consider, therefore, increasing the strength of Certificate 'C' holders for direct ontry into the Indian Military Academy, and providing the centres in the University itself, to create a sense of belonging to the Army, right from the studentship in universities.

SHRI V.P. NARASIMHA RAO : The statement very clearly states that at present the pattern is that the officers cadre in the armed forces is recruited through examinations conducted by the UPSC and screened by Services Selection Board. What the hon. member in effect wants me to do is to bypass this and have a direct recruitment for 'C' Certificate Holders so that they could be straightway sent to the Academy. Now, this is something which involves a departure from the present practice; and so far as increasing of seats is concerned, that may not be a problem; but, as the clearly states the vacancies statement earmarked for them have not been filled; they have remained unfilled at the moment. So, while it may not be very difficult to increase the sents, let us see whether seats already allotted can be filled in the coming years. So, a departure which in effect he is suggesting, I am not in a position to commit anything; at the most, I get a report from the Directorafter General which I have promised to the House during the debate, we shall go into that. But, I think it may not be a good idea to bypass UPSC and the Services Selection Boards. As I said, we will look into that. But this is my first reaction.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Is he aware that—I do not know whether it is still there—from the successful cadets of the NCC in colleges universities, a large number of them were taken into a training of OTU; and if they qualified in that examination and training, they were directly taken into the Services Selection Boards. I happened to be involved in this course: that is why I know the details of Will the Minister once again consider it. to bring that course so that successful cadets directly go to the OTU training and from there they go to the army as Commissioned Officers ?

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO: As I said, it essentially involves a departure from the present pattern and a bypassing of the UPSC. I keep my mind open, but I cannot make a commitment. This will depend on so many other changes which we may have to bring about. So, let us wait and see how it works.

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY: Is there any proposal to have a Bengali regiment, Tamilnadu regiment and such other regiments which still have not formed on the line of Bihar Regiment, Sikh Regiment, Dogra Regiment which follow State name and perhaps sometimes the caste name?

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO: I have to conclude that he wants NCC to be regimented according to the States. This is a question in regard to NCC, not the army regiments.

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : Are you ready to begin from here also ?

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO: I have already answered a question categorically in this House that no such new regiments on those lines will be created. Now, if the hon, member wants us to start from NCC, again the answer will be in the negative.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : About 35 years ago, a system of entry for officers through NCC was if a cadet had graduated and passed part 'C' examination, he only faced a Services Selection Boards interview; and after the interview, he did one year training at the Indian Military Academy after which if found fit, he was given a commission. I am one of those products. He has got a very good number of NCC Cadets. Every course of one year duration used to have about 50-80 cadets directly coming through this procedure. If this procedure was followed 35 years ago, when we got good officer material, it should be there today also. So, the question of not being able to follow this system again should not be there. I feel that there should be no difficulty. Would the hon. Defence Minister be pleased to assure us that the system which once existed can be made to exist and revived ?

SHRIP.V. NARASIMHA RAO: This is too much of a commitment to say that what was followed 35 years ago is still valid today. As I said, I am prepared to have a second look at it. Let the report

23 Oral Answers

from the Director General come. There was a system, which waschanged. Now the system is through the UPSC. It is not so lightly that I can say that I am going to dispense with the system.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Balasaheb Vikhe Patil. The hon. Member is absent.

PROF. Nirmala Kumari Shaktawat.

[Translation]

Linking of Chittorgarh with Delhi and Jaipur by S.T.D.

* 658. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a new building has been constructed in Chittorgarh, Rajasthan for bringing about improvements in telecommunication system there;

(b) the time by which necessary equipments will reach there to ensure smooth functioning of telecommunication system;

(c) the details of the other equipments required for this purpose ;

(d) whether keeping in view the importance of Chittorgarh from tourism point of view, Government propose to link this town with Jaipur and Delhi by S.T.D.; and

(e) if, not, the reasons therefor?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An automatic exchange of MAX-II type is under installation and is expected to be completed by the end of this year.

(c) Important equipment like switches and relay sets is still awaited and are expected to be supplied during the current year. (d) Yes, Sir.

(e) In view of (d) above, does not arise.

[Translation]

PROF. NIRMALA SHAKTAWAT : The hon. Minister has himself admitted that Chittorgarh is important from the tourism point. But, it is very backward so far as telecommunications are concented. The building is ready there for the last one year, but the work has not yet started as the equipments have not been provided. As state by the hon. Minister. two equipments are not yet there. Similarly, many other equipments such as battery charges, meter rack, master clock, etc. have also not been made available there. I would like to know the time by which all these equipments will reach there.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: I have already stated that in view of the importance of Chittoryarh, we want that the communication services should be improved there. Therefore, we are trying to accelerate the speed of on-going projects there and I am confident that the on-going scheme will start functioning fully by the end of this year.

PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTA-WAT: The hon. Minister has replied to part (d) of my question in the affirmative and said that he is going to link Chittorgarh with Delhi and Jaipur through S.T.D. I want to congratulate him for that. I would like to know the time by which this work would be completed.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: We propose to link Chittorgarh with Trunk Automatic Exchange of Jaipur during the Seventh Five Year Plan. Thereafter, all places like Udaipur, Delhi and Jaipur will be linked with Chittorgarh through S.T.D. We shall endeavour to do it during the Seventh Five Year Plan.

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Just as hon. Minister has replied to the question about Chittorgarh, he has said in reply to a question that the district headquarters which have automatic exchanges would