

improve its security arrangements and is "changing and reducing other requirements."

Allotment of Gas Agencies and free land to War Widows and disabled Soldiers

*951. SHRI DEVINDER SINGH GAR-CHA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some complaints have been received in regard to rehabilitation of war-widows and disabled soldiers by way of granting gas agencies and allotment of free land; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to see that justice is done to the deserving persons?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI J. B. PATNAIK): (a) and (b). The main rehabilitation benefit extended to war widows and disabled soldiers is the liberalised pension. Under the liberalised pension scheme, the next of kin of a Jawan/JCO is entitled for life to an amount equal to the last pay drawn by the deceased Servicemen. In the case of officers' widows they are eligible to a pension equal to three fourths of the pay drawn, immediately before death till the deemed date of retirement or seven years whichever is later and thereafter the normal retiring pension of the rank held at the time of death. Allotment of Gas agencies and of land is a supplementary assistance.

Availability of Gas agencies is based on the economic viability of running such agencies in any particular location. Therefore it is not always possible for the Indian Oil Corporation to allot such agencies to all applicants in locations of their choice. A large number of war widows/disabled who had applied for agencies were those who were interested in allotment in the North. Since Indian Oil Corporation could offer only a limited number of such agencies, it has not been possible to accommodate all of them and in locations of their choice. Care is being taken to ensure that as far

as possible agencies are allotted in locations of their choice but where this has not been possible, their names have been noted for future consideration when the Indian Oil Corporation is able to make more outlets available.

Allotment of land to war widows and disabled soldiers is made by State Governments. They keep in view the desirability of provision of land near familiar environments. However, such land is not always available. State Governments have thus to take into account such factors as property already owned by the allottees and subject to these, the State Governments make all possible efforts to allot land to these categories of persons. Having sanctioned liberalised pensions, it can not be ensured that satisfaction will be given to all persons wanting to secure gas agencies or allotments of land.

Recruitment of Scheduled Tribes of Jahazpur Area (Rajasthan) in Indian Army

*952. SHRI HEMENDRA SINGH BANERA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Minas (Scheduled Tribes) of the Jahazpur area in Bhilwara are recruited in the Indian Army:

(b) if so, whether Government propose to establish a Centre of their regiment at Deoli; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) During the last three years, 59 recruits belonging to Minas tribe were recruited into the Army as against a total number of 305 recruits in the whole of the Bhilwara District over the same period; while the number of Minas recruited is not large in itself, it is proportionately large as it constitutes about 19 per cent of the recruitment from the District.

(b) and (c) No Sir. The present policy of the Government is not to create any new regiment of the type of some