

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

existing Regiments recruitment to which is reserved for members of one caste or community.

**Decision on Sukinda Nickel Project Orissa**

\*958. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1449 on the 1st March, 1973 and state when Sukinda Nickel Project, Orissa would be worked out for implementation during the Fifth Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM) : The pilot plant tests related to the processing of nickel ore are likely to be completed by the middle of 1974. The preparation of a Detailed Project Report can then be taken up followed by its implementation for commercial exploitation.

**Production of Aircraft quality steel by steel plant at Bhadravati**

\*959 SHRI RAJDEO SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether on evaluation of varieties of steel production by the Government-owned Mysore Iron and Steel Plant, Bhadravati Government are going to give 'A' type certificate for the production of aircraft quality steel;

(b) if so, whether the capacity of production of the said plant can be had to the volume of aircraft quality production steel to meet the requirement of aircraft plant; and

(c) if so, the amount of savings of the foreign-exchange ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEFENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) HAL had obtained samples of three types of steel from the Mysore Iron & Steel Ltd., Bhadravati. Their suitability for use in aircraft production is being evaluated by the concerned agencies.

(b) and (c) Do not arise at this state.

**Verdict given by International Committee on Red Cross Re. clash between two groups of Pak POWs**

\*960. SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAKODKAR :  
SHRI P. M. MEHTA :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state whether the International Committee on Red Cross have given its verdict regarding a clash between two groups of Pakistan Prisoner of War in April, 1973 in POWs camp and have certified that India has not done anything wrong as Pakistan claims ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) : No communication has been received either from Pakistan or from the International Committee of Red Cross regarding the incident which occurred on 15th April, 1973, in a POW Camp in Madhya Pradesh. The International Committee of Red Cross is a purely humanitarian agency and its functions do not include investigations into incidents.

आयुध कारखानों और शर्मा चार्जिनस कोर के कर्मचारियों की बरिफ्टता के बारे में शेषतः क्या ज्ञान 8940 श्री धनराज प्रसाद क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह ज्ञान की कृपा करेंगे कि उनके मंत्रालय के तीन काम करने वाले कर्मचारियों को दो बनों में शर्मा आयुध कारखानों के कर्मचारियों और शर्मा चार्जिनस कोर के कर्मचारियों के कम में, प्रिन पर एक ही प्रकार के सिलब सेवा विनियम लागू होते हैं और जो एक ही प्रकार के कर्तव्यों का पालन करने हैं तथा एक ही प्रकार के पबो पर कार्य कर रहे हैं और एक ही प्रकार के वेतन प्राप्त कर रहे हैं विभक्त किए जाने के क्या कारण हैं ?

रक्षा मंत्रालय में उपस्थिति (धी से) श्री ० धनराज) : यह मंत्रालय ने सन् 1949 में अनुदेश जारी किए थे कि एकू सेड में बरिफ्टता उस सेड में या समकक्ष सेड में की गई सेवा की सम्पाद के अनुसार निर्धारित की जाती बरिफ्ट। अनुसूची सैनिक