

Short Service Commissions

*1185. **Shri Kameshwar Singh:**
Shri Madhu Limaye:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are going to recruit defence personnel through Short Service Commissions;

(b) if so, why Emergency Commissioned personnel are not being absorbed; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence (Shri B. R. Bhagat):

(a) Yes, Sir. The grant of Emergency Commissions which was introduced after the declaration of Emergency was discontinued in 1965, and Short Service Commissions are being granted in the Army since 1965 with a tenure of 5 years service and a reserve liability thereafter for 10 years.

(b) and (c). The Emergency Commissioned Officers who are willing and eligible and are graded fit for Permanent Commissions by the Services Selection Boards will be retained in service as Permanent Commissioned Officers upto 1/3rd of their number and the rest released according to a phased programme, during 1967-70. Government will consider increasing the quota of Permanent Commissions above 1/3rd, depending on the actual results of the screening of the Emergency Commissioned Officers by the Services Selection Boards. No useful purpose will be served by granting Short Service Commissions to Emergency Commissioned Officers because the Emergency Commissioned Officers due for release in the different batches will have served for a period varying between 4-6 years and that service will count towards the tenure of 5 years service as Short Service Commissioned Officers. It is also not possible to retain the Emergency Commissioned Officers as such indefinitely in service, as such retention will create an imbalance in the age and service structure in the Officers' cadre, leading to administrative prob-

lems relating to posting, promotion and further recruitment, and also will not be conducive to achieve the goal of keeping the Army young.

Newspapers Finance Corporation

*1186. **Shri Sidheshwar Prasad:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether steps to set up a Newspapers Finance Corporation has been taken;

(b) if so, what will be the main features of the said Corporation; and

(c) how it is likely to take special care of the Indian Language Newspapers?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Shri K. K. Shah): (a) and (b). The matter is still under consideration.

(c) Does not arise.

Inquiry Committee's Report on the supply of tyres

*1187. **Shri Yashpal Singh:**
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Madhu Limaye:
Shri Arjun Singh Bhadoria:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Inquiry Committee appointed by the Government as a result of the 64th Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the supply of tyres has submitted its report; and

(b) if so, whether a copy thereof would be laid on the Table?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence (Shri B. R. Bhagat):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The report deals *inter alia* with various disciplinary aspects on which action is to be finalised by the concerned Ministries. Further, the Public Accounts Committee is scheduled to consider the entire matter at their sitting on the 22nd July 1967. It