

fact that due to amalgamation of two different cadres in the Armed Medical Corps—I think they are Administrative and Specialists Cadres—some senior officers were to retire and some junior officers of another cadre were promoted? Now, what happened was, as a result of that they went to the Court and won their case and had to be reinstated. Will the Hon. Minister kindly enquire into the cause of such frequent changes of rules by which some officers get benefit and others are harmed, which affects the morale of the officers in the Army?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO : I am not able to answer the specific question. If the Hon Member could give me some details, I will certainly look into the matter.

Sixth Annual Conference of the International Chamber of Commerce held in Seoul

*448. **SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARI :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) Whether an Indian delegation of industrialists participated in the Sixth Annual Conference of the International Chamber of Commerce held recently in Seoul, and

(b) if so, whether Government have received a report on the outcome of the discussions held at the Conference and other details?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir, The Indian National Committee, a non-official body, which is a member of the International Chamber of Commerce sponsored a 14-member delegation to the conference held on the 25th—28th March, 1985 at Seoul.

(b) No, Sir.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARY: Mr. Speaker Sir, the Hon Minister has replied in

the negative to part (b) of the question. I would, therefore, like to ask when this report would be available. I would also like to know whether the matter was considered at Government level before sending the delegation? Before a delegation from the Private Sector, etc., goes abroad, are consultations held keeping in view the Government's policy so that there is no contradiction between the Government's economic policy and the viewpoint of the delegation?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I had said in my reply, this was a non-official body and it had sent a delegation of 14 members to participate in this conference. They are not bound to submit a report to the Government after their return. Therefore, it is not possible to say when they would submit their report.

SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARI : The Hon Minister has of course, given a reply. But we want that a report, should be submitted to Government and there should be a discussion on that keeping in view Government's economic policies so that the industrialists could get the guidelines. The Hon Minister has just now said that it is not obligatory, for them to do so. I am insisting because Government are very much dependent on the Private Sector. That is the feeling of the people and such an atmosphere has been created. I would like to know whether Government are adopting any new policy to exercise control over the Private Sector?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : Policies and rules are already laid down. We depend on both the sectors, the Private sector as well as the Public Sector, and we want both the sectors to grow.

MR. SPEAKER : But the law can be changed(Interruptions)

[English]

Request for Raising "Andhra Regiment"

*449. **SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO :** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any request received by Government to name one of the Regiments of Infantry as "Andhra Regiment" just as Sikh, Jat, Madras, Gurkha etc. Regiments; and

(b) if so, the action taken and the time by which it will be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARASHIMHA RAO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The policy of the Government since Independence is *not* to raise any new Regiment on the basis of State, region, caste or community. The existing Regiments, which are based on such considerations, are of pre-independence era. A reply has been sent accordingly.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : The Minister has said that the policy of the Government is not to raise any new regiments on the basis of State, region, caste etc. But the regiments which were named on these basis, those names are not being removed, and they are still continuing. There is nothing wrong, if some regiments are named as per the request of the State Governments, for example the request of the Andhra Government for an Andhra Regiment. Will the Government reconsider its previous decision and respond positively in the near future to name some regiments as per the requests of the concerned State Governments ?

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : This has been considered again and again. We have come to the conclusion that whatever was obtaining during the British era itself was not desirable; whether that is to be changed now or not is a matter which could be considered but certainly there is no question of adding to that list.

There have been requests from several other sources; there is a request for an Ahir regiment, there is a request for a Karnataka regiment; there are requests from all kinds of quarters, but I do not think it will be possible to change the policy which has been deliberately designed and accepted after independence.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : As the Hon. Minister knows one of the reasons for naming the regiments by the British was probably the area from which the soldiers used to be recruited. Is the Government considering any proposal that recruitment to the existing regiments which are named on regional basis etc. will be made from areas other than those areas, with which those particular regiments are identified ? Further, why does the Government not consider the idea of numerically numbering the regiments as is the Armoured Corps numbered. In the same way, various regiments can be numerically numbered. Is there any proposal like that; if not, will the Government be pleased to consider this ?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO : As regards the first part of the question, all recruitment now is being made on the all-class pattern. There is no question of persons only from one State or caste being recruited for a whole regiment. That is not the case. There are some regiments, which are of that type still, but they were recruited long ago and now all recruitment is made on all-class basis.

As regards the second part of the question, I am not very clear what the Hon. Member wants to know.

MR. SPEAKER: Why can't the regiments be numbered numerically, as the Armoured Corps is numbered ?

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : Once it is not named on community, State or regional basis, how exactly it is to be named, that could be considered if there is any specific suggestion.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI VIDYAWATI CHATURVEDI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit to the Hon. Minister that new regiments are not being named after the Castes, but there are certain regions which have created a place for themselves in history, and Bundelkhand is one such region which is famous for its bravery. There should, therefore, be a Bundelkhand regiment so that, the people may remember the history and the bravery

of the people. Will the Hon. Minister look into it ?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : She wants an exception.

[Translation]

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there can be many other ways of remembering the bravery of the fore fathers of that region. It was thought during the British time that there were certain regions in India, the people of which were very brave and the people of other States were not so brave. Such sections of the people were called martial races. After independence, we have rejected this hypothesis. We consider every citizen of India to be equally brave, provided he gets an opportunity to show his bravery.

Telephone Exchanges in Gujarat

450. SHRI NARSINH MAKWANA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of the small telephone exchanges in Gujarat and the number of telephone connections provided therefrom ?

(b) whether Government are aware that the number of complaints about telephones there is on the increase because small telephone exchanges do not function properly; and

(c) whether Government propose to set up 1000-line big exchanges in place of small exchanges, which will result in reduced number of complaints, increased efficiency and prove less expensive ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The number of small telephone exchanges (MAX-III) in Gujarat are 514 and the connections

provided therefrom are 16135 as on 30-9-1984.

(b) Small telephone exchanges in Gujarat are generally working satisfactorily. Any complaints received are attended promptly.

(c) Setting up of 1000 lines big exchanges in place of small exchanges depends upon the demand, financial viability and availability of Automatic Switching equipment.

[Translation]

SHRI NARSINH MAKWANA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had asked whether Government were aware that the number of telephone complaints was increasing because small telephone exchanges did not function properly. It has not been stated in the reply whether the number of complaints has increased. I would like to know the number of complaints and the steps being taken in that regard.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Sir, it is not possible to give the number of complaints now but we have evolved a procedure to deal with the complaints and to attend to them. Whenever a complaint is received and registered, it is sent to the concerned officer and efforts are made to redress the complaint.

If we take the month of December, I would like to inform him that so far as Gujarat is concerned, the percentage of calls which could not materialize in small exchanges was only 1.9 and it was 2.6 in respect of other exchanges. So far as the question of trunk calls is concerned, the percentage of effective trunk calls since 1970-71 is 76. However, we endeavour to provide still better facilities to our telephone subscribers and especially for Gujarat, we have formulated a scheme in the Seventh Five Year Plan to replace the old exchanges including the small exchanges in a phased manner and to install new exchanges.

SHRI NARSINH MAKWANA : Whatever the Hon. Minister has now said in reply is also given in the written reply, i.e., the installation of 1000-line big exchanges depends on the demand, financial viability