Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding relaxation in age limit in Army recruitment.

... (Interruptions) ... *

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Only the written statement will go on record.

SHRI SHYAM SINGH YADAV (JAUNPUR): Sir, the matter relates to the employment of youth of our country, the pride of our nation and the security of our country.

Today, I shall raise the voice of the young men in our villages who just dream of becoming soldiers in the Indian Army. They practice in village roads in the scorching heat in 45 degrees Celsius and in chilling winters too, just to protect their motherland as soldiers. They sacrifice their youth for becoming soldiers.

I will talk about Purvanchal and specifically about Varanasi Mandal Zone in which my constituency Jaunpur falls as well as Varanasi parliamentary constituency which our hon. Prime Minister represents.

There is no Army recruitment in Varanasi Mandal since 2019 (comprising Jaunpur, Ghazipur, Chandauli, Mau, Azamgarh).

Everything has normalized. Announcement of Army recruitment was made in September 2020 but nothing has happened. Registration was carried out in September, 2021 and recruitment was to be done in November 2021 but it has again been postponed citing Corona. A period of two years passed with our youth idling at home due to Corona.

Army recruits are youth aged 18 years to 21 years. Youths who were preparing for recruitment in Army have crossed 21 years of age due to Corona and now they are overaged for job they dreamt of and prepared hard for no fault of theirs.

Hence, I urge upon the Government to relax the age of recruitment in Army up to 23 years for youth who lost their precious two years due to Corona- 19 pandemic.

Age eligibility has been decided from December month in the registration exercise carried out in September, 2021. In earlier recruitments, this was reckoned from July month. So, the criterion should revert to earlier one as lakhs of youth missed out because of crossing 21 years.

Army recruitment process be initiated and expedited as postponement will again make lakhs of youths ineligible for recruitment in Army.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Manne Srinivas Reddy – not present. Smt. Veena Devi.