

(iv) Number of those who could not be considered due to having attained superannuation. . . . .	38
(v) Number medically rejected.	
(vi) Number of those who did not report for test/interview. . . . .	77
(vii) Number of those who refused to accept employment in Mazagon Dock. . . . .	79
(viii) Number not yet absorbed. . . . .	37

The reason for non-absorption of the remaining 37 ex-employees of M/s. Alcock Ashdown & Co. is that there are no identical or similar categories in Mazagon Dock Ltd. Attempts are being made to employ them in suitable alternative trades as and when vacancies arise in such trades.

**Sainik Boards**

1295. SHRI DURGA CHAND: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme to strengthen the Sainik Boards in various States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHER SINGH): (a) and (b): The following decisions have been taken to strengthen the functioning of the Rajya Sainik Boards:—

(i) Secretaries of the Rajya Sainik Boards should be retired Brigadiers/Colonels of the Army or their equivalents from the Navy or the Air Force.

(ii) The Secretaries of the Zila Sainik Boards should be retired Lt. Colonels/Majors of the Army or their equivalents from the Navy or the Air Force.

(iii) The Welfare organisers should be ex-JCOs and senior NCOs of the Army or their equivalents from the Navy or the Air Force and selected from among the experien-

ced ex-servicemen with adequate educational qualifications.

(iv) The Secretaries referred to at (i) and (ii) above should be initially appointed for three years, with six months on probation; and their services subsequently extended from year to year on the basis of their performance and efficiency.

These decisions are being progressively implemented. It is hoped that these steps would improve the working of these Boards.

**T.V. Programmes of the Problems of Hilly Areas**

1296. SHRI DURGA CHAND: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi Doordarshan does not telecast any programme on the problems and difficulties of the hilly areas of Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to introduce such programmes in the near future; if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Delhi Doordarshan Kendra does not serve Himachal Pradesh. However, the Lucknow Doordarshan Kendra has already telecast one documentary on the problems of 'Tharu' tribes of Lakhimpur Kheri hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh and a discussion on the development of agriculture in the hilly areas of U.P. Programmes projecting the folk dances and music of tribal areas in India are telecast from Doordarshan Kendras from time to time. It is also proposed to depute a film team to the hilly areas within the service range of the Mussoorie transmitter occasionally to build up programmes projecting the socio-economic development of the people of those areas.