

Recruitment Policy for Army

2181. PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's policy of new or fresh recruitments for the army has remained the same and stationary for last one decade and more;

(b) if so, why;

(c) if not, what changes have been effected and why;

(d) how are the recruitments done whether any special or spectacular camps are organised in this direction to attract wider notice of the intending recruits and the general public; and

(e) if so, broad details thereof including whether such a camp was recently put up in Ahmedabad in Gujarat?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) to (c). There has been no basic change in the policy of recruitment in the Indian Army for the last one decade and more. The broad policy, which was adopted after independence and which is still continuing, is that recruitment to the Indian Army should become gradually broad-based. The recruitment of officers in the Army is made from amongst Indian nationals on an all India basis. The recruitment is not based on caste, creed or religion but on merits only. In the case of recruitment to Other Ranks, there is reservation for certain castes and communities and specified groups of people in some regiments. In other Regiments the recruitment is open to all classes subject to physical, educational and medical standards. The recruitment to "all class regiment" is based on the recruitable male population of the State according to 1971 census and demands are placed accordingly.

Where however the actual recruitment in a particular State/Union Territory falls below the proportionate ratio, the deficiency is made good from other States/Union Territories.

(d) and (e). Recruitment into the Army is done through a net-work of 60 Recruiting Offices located all over the country. With a view to covering the remotest regions, Recruiting Officers are also required to carry out regular extensive and intensive tours into the interior parts of their respective recruiting zones/areas so that the candidate are not made to travel long distances. In addition, Regional All India Recruiting Rallies are held at different places throughout the country.

Wide publicity in respect of tours of the Recruiting Officer as well as that of the Recruiting Rallies is given through the media of local newspapers, beating of drums, distribution of handbills, radio and television.

Indian Delegation at a Conference in Kuala Lumpur

2182. PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether he recently led an Indian Delegation to a Conference in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia;

(b) if so, full facts thereof;

(c) whether Government are entering into any specific or concrete arrangements or agreements for speedier and better information channels between and among Asian Nations; and

(d) if so, broad indication thereto?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An International Conference on Communication Policies in Asia and

Oceania, sponsored by UNESCO was held at Kuala Lumpur from 5th to 14th February, 1979.

The Kuala Lumpur Conference was the second Regional Conference of its kind, on communication policies, the first one having taken place at San Jose (Costa Rica) in July 1976 in respect of the Latin American and the Caribbean region. The following were the main agenda items which were discussed in this Conference:—

- (1) Problems and perspectives of communication.
- (2) Problems arising from the development of modern systems of communication.
- (3) Formulation and implementation of national communication policies.
- (4) Regional and international cooperation.

The Indian Delegation was led by me for the first three days and by Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting for the remaining seven days. The other members of the Delegation were as follows:—

1. Shri D. R. Manekar, Chairman, Coordination Committee, News Agencies Pool of Non-aligned countries.
 2. Shri S. J. S. Chhatwal, High Commissioner for India, Kuala Lumpur.
 3. Shri Krishan Sondhi, Joint Adviser (Communication), Planning Commission.
 4. Shri G. N. Tandon, Special Assistant to Minister of Information and Broadcasting—from 5th to 7th February, 1979.
 5. Shri V. S. Gopalkrishnan, Director (Information Policy), Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.
- (c) and (d). Cooperation amongst the member States in the region of Asia and Oceania for improved in-

formation exchanges between them, constituted an important section in the deliberations of the Kuala Lumpur Conference. The Conference made several recommendations to Members States and UNESCO relating to improved news flow amongst these countries as well as cooperation among the news agencies in these countries. Some of the other major recommendations pertain to the constitution of a Regional Bank for film, video tapes and radio programmes; the examination of the possibility of establishment of an international fund for the development of communication; the use of communication satellites for exchange of news and information and television programmes; and the reduction of tariff for press bulletin services from one country to another. The Conference has set the pace for the establishment of closer cooperation in the field of information amongst the countries of this region. Any specific or concrete agreements or arrangements amongst the countries for this purpose are expected to take shape in future.

Steps to reduce salaries of Company Directors

2183. PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently taken any effective and concrete steps at reducing the salaries, perquisites allied facilities etc. of the company Directors;

(b) if so, what are they and with what effect or result; and

(c) if not, why not?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI S. D. PATIL): (a) to (c). The revised administrative guidelines lowering the ceiling of remuneration