

Hiring of Coolers by A.F.H.Q.

8221. SHRI SATISH PRASAD NGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Armed Forces Headquarters is the biggest user of coolers and it has been contract to the same old contractor for hiring thousands of coolers for installation in the offices at exorbitant rate; and

(b) if so, do Government propose advising the Armed Forces Headquarters to desist from this practice and make their own departmental arrangements as has been done by others to effect recurring economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI HIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) It cannot be stated categorically that AFHQ is the biggest cooler user organisation as information regarding the number of coolers used by other Organisations is not readily available. The contracts for hiring of coolers have been given at competitive rates for different contractors, whose quotations in response to open tender enquiry in the Press, were the lowest.

(b) The officers of AFHQ are spread over in different buildings and areas. The question of undertaking the work of purchase installation, maintenance and upkeep of coolers departmentally had been examined more than once and found to be not practicable.

Reservation of vacancies for army officers in Class I services in IAS 1973 Examination

8222. SHRI K. C. SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether vacancies reserved for Army Officers in Class I Service in the IAS 1973 examination were deserted;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether there is any candidate who is affected;

(d) whether any representations were received by the Central Government in this matter;

(e) whether ex-army officers who passed the written and interview were given class I service; if not, the relevant notification and Rules under which the above was not done;

(f) whether Ministry of Home, Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms circulated a letter to the UPSC specifying percentage of marks for grant of class I post even in those cases where these army officers had passed both the written and interview test; and

(g) whether the UPSC has got any authority under the relevant Rules and Notification issued specifically allotted candidates to a particular category of Service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Sufficient number of candidates were not recommended by the UPSC to fill the vacancies in Class I Services reserved for the EC/SSC officers on the results of the I.A.S. etc. (Released EC/SSC Officers) Examination; 1973.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Those who were recommended for appointment to Class I Services by the Union Public Service Commission were offered appointment.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Yes, Sir.

Ancillary and Small Units of Durgapur Asansol Belt

8223. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state: