

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. All the retirements were in accordance with statutory provisions. 19 Lt. Colonels and 5 Majors retired on attaining the normal age of superannuation. 3 Lt. Colonels retired prematurely at their own request in accordance with Section 22 of the Army Act. 2 Majors were retired compulsorily for not passing the mandatory exams within the stipulated time, under Section 19 of the Army Act read in conjunction with Army Rule 13-A. 1 Major was compulsorily retired for inefficiency under Section 19 of the Army Act read with Army Rule 15.

**SC/ST welfare association in B.E.L.
Bangalore**

4020. SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe Welfare Associations are in Bharat Electronics Limited, Bangalore and when they were started;

(b) whether they are recognised; and

(c) if not, what action is proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) There is only one Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe Welfare Association in Bharat Electronics Limited, Bangalore. This Association was started in 1972-73.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) As Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe Association in Bharat Electronics Limited, Bangalore, is not a Union registered under the Trade Union Act, 1926, the question of its formal recognition does not arise.

Refugee families in Jammu and Kashmir

4021. SHRI SURAJ BHAN:

SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKAR:

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJ-PAYEE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of refugee families in Jammu and Kashmir State from West Pakistan and their period of stay there;

(b) whether they have right to vote to work and to own property there, if not, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that in 1973-74 the Jammu and Kashmir Government had drafted a Bill to confer property rights on these refugees; and

(d) the action taken so far to ensure the rights of these refugees and results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) No reliable figures are available in respect of such refugee families

(b) These persons, being Indian citizens in terms of article 6 of the Constitution, have a right to vote at Parliamentary elections and get employment under the Central Government. As they are not "permanent residents" of Jammu and Kashmir State as defined in the State Constitution, however, they are neither eligible to vote at Assembly elections nor get employment under the State Government nor acquire immovable property in the State. This restriction applies to all Indian citizens who are not "permanent residents" of Jammu and Kashmir.

(c) The desired information is being ascertained from the State Government.