

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3785

ANSWERED ON:23.12.2004

CIVILIANISATION OF MES .

Meghwal Shri Kailash;Pandey Dr. Laxminarayan;Pradhan Shri Dharmendra;Rawat Shri Bachi Singh;Singh Shri Ganesh Prasad;Yerrannaidu Shri Kinjarapu

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

referring to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 5741 dated May 2, 2002 regarding functioning of MES and state:

(a) whether the Fifth Central Pay Commission has recommended civilian Head for MES organization;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether 90% of top administration of MES is in the hands of Army Officers despite the recommendations of Fifth Central Pay Commission;

(d) if so, whether the Government has already issued orders for gradual civilianisation of MES;

(e) if so, the reasons for non-implementation of Fifth Central Pay Commission recommendations in toto as well as the Government orders in this regard; and

(f) the time by which such orders are likely to be implemented by the Military Engineering Services?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In para 50.102 of their report the Vth Central Pay Commission has observed that 'We have carefully perused the views of Engineer-in-Chief Branch on the memorandum of the IDSE Association and have examined the present organizational structure in MES. We find that there is tremendous resentment among civilian officers of MES due to disparities in equivalence between Army and Civilian Officers. Further, the senior-most civilian officer who is Additional Director General in the pay scale of Rs. 7300-7600 is reporting to the Director General who is a military officer of the rank of Major General in the pay scale of Rs. 5900-6700. This is obviously an anomaly. In the interests of the organization and fair play, we recommend that the head of this organization should be a civilian.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Orders have been issued for redesignating the post of Additional Director General (Systems and Control) held by the senior most civilian officer of Military Engineering Service (MES) as Director General (Personnel), who will report directly to Engineer-in-Chief. Orders have also been issued for maintaining proper mix of civilian and service officers by ensuring that in the hierarchy of the personnel management, the service and civilian officers at all level shall alternate.

(e) MES is an Inter-Service Organisation having a judicious mix of civil and Army Personnel to avail expertise of both Army and civilian nature of functions. Therefore, no decision for withdrawal of service personnel from MES has been taken.

(f) In view of answer to part (e) above, the question does not arise.