

Public Accounts Committee on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 154th Report of the Committee (7th Lok Sabha) regarding Coaching Services.

COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

First, Second and Third Reports

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY (Kanakapura) : I beg to present the First, Second and Third Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table.

COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

Minutes of the Sitzings

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY (Kanakapura) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table Minutes (Hindi and English versions) of the sittings of the Committee on Papers laid on the Table relating to their First, Second and Third Reports.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, we come to Calling Attention. Shri Suresh Kurup.

PROF. N.G. RANGA (Guntur) : Mr. Speaker, may I make some observation ?

What is the time limit for this discussion ? One or two hours.

Now it is three hours of four hours. For Half-an-Hour discussion, it is one-and-a-half hours.

MR. SPEAKER : If you all agree, we will curtail it.

PROF. N.G. RANGA : For discussion under Rule 193, it is two hours, but it goes on like this.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You want to speak more and more. What can I do, Sir ?

PROF. N.G. RANGA : Some of us are patiently cooperating with you, we go on waiting till 6.30.

MR. SPEAKER : I do it with the consent of the House. I have got no pleasure, you see, Sir. When you say 'We want to speak', I give you that time. Now if the House does not want any time, I will be happier. No problem for me.

Now Calling Attention. Mr. Suresh Kurup....

PROF. N.G. RANGA : Even half-an-hour discussion takes 1-1/2 hours.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Kamalnath.

12.10 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

[English]

Reported delay in implementation of recommendations of high level committee on problems of ex-servicemen

SHRI KAMAL NATH (Chhindwara) : I call the attention of the Minister of Defence to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon :

Reported delay in the implementation of recommendations of high level committee on problems of ex-servicemen and steps taken by Government to expedite the matter.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Kamal Nath, have you heard the comments of Prof. Ranga ?

SHRI KAMAL NATH : I have heard him, but he was not talking on this matter. He was on some other matter.

MR. SPEAKER : Now you are allowed 10 minutes.

SHRI KAMAL NATH : He was not talking on my time limit. Were you, Sir ?

MR. SPEAKER : It applies to everybody from now on.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : Sir, Government has always been keen to provide for the resettlement and welfare of Ex-Servicemen and realises the need to resolve their difficulties expeditiously. To secure these objectives Government has, over the years, designed and implemented a wide-ranging package of incentives and facilities for Ex-Servicemen. As these are already well known, I will not dwell on them in detail to-day.

2. Despite the promulgation of this package, there was a feeling that the entire matter needed to be reviewed so as to ascertain what more could be done. Recognising this, Government set up in March, 1984, a High Level Committee on the problems of ex-servicemen under the Chairmanship of Shri K.P. Singh Deo, the then R-ksha Rajya Mantri and now the Minister of State for personnel & Training. The Committee acted with commendable speed and presented its Report to Government on the 27th October, 1984. The report was taken up for examination soon after the formation of the present Government. Printed copies of the Report have been laid on the table of both the Houses of Parliament.

3. As a first step, all the 68 recommendations of the Report were scrutinised within the Defence Ministry. Six of the 68 recommendations related exclusively to the State Governments and the Union Territory Administrations. Another 26 recommendations needed to be accepted and implemented by the Central Govern-

ment jointly with the State Governments and the Union Territory Administrations. The remaining 36 recommendations related exclusively to the Government of India; however, most of them required consultations with different Ministries and Departments as also the Planning Commission.

4. Accordingly the relevant recommendations were taken up with the State Governments as well as with the concerned Ministries and Central agencies. In many cases references were made by me personally and in other cases at administrative levels, generally by the Defence Secretary.

5. In order to expedite the required inter-Ministerial consultations on these proposals and to evolve a consensus quickly, an Empowered Committee was set up by the Ministry of Defence under the Chairmanship of the Additional Secretary, with all other concerned Ministries represented at a senior level, in terms of the prescribed procedure.

PROF. N.G. RANGA : Very good.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : The committee was allotted 3 months to accomplish its task. The Committee met 5 times and completed its work within the allotted time. Its recommendations were finalised at its last meeting held on the 9th July, 1985.

6. It would be recalled that during the Budget Session of Parliament, I had informed the members that by the current session I expected considerable progress to have been made in the matter.

7. The foregoing narration of events would reveal that no effort has been spared to finalise Government's decisions on the recommendations of the HLC. As I have said earlier, it has been our aim to finalise decisions on the recommendations progressively, and to start implementation as soon as a recommendation is accepted, rather than to await decisions en-block on all the recommendations.

8. As a result of this approach, I am today in a position to say that, based on the deliberations of the Empowered Committee and the consensus which has been evolved by us so far, as many as 42 out of 68 recommendations stand accepted. These are listed in Annexure I to this statement. These Annexures have also been laid on the Table of the House. In addition, 2 more recommendations relating to the Rent Control Act and reservations in professional courses have also been partly accepted. Another 3 recommendations relating to the census, joint sponsorship and procedure for the dereservation of reserved posts, are likely to be accepted shortly. Two other recommendations relating to the maintenance of a data bank and placement procedure, are linked with the proposal of providing assured employment up to the age of 58 years to every single demobilised person and are of a consequential nature. These 7 recommendations are also listed in the statement at Annexure-I.

9. Thus, only 19 recommendations remain, on which final decisions are still to be taken. The Empowered Committee has completed the examination possible at their level. However these recommendations either relate to major policy issues or have significant financial implications on which a consensus could not be achieved at the official level. There is also a divergence of views on some of these recommendations. Decisions on these will, therefore, take a little longer. As I am sure the House would like to have some details about the major areas covered by these 19 recommendations, I will now briefly enumerate them. Broadly, these relate to 4 major areas covered in the HLC's recommendations.

10. As has just been referred to, the very first is the proposal that all members of the Armed Forces be assured continuing employment in civilian posts immediately after their release and upto the age of 58 years. It would be pertinent to observe that the High level Committee has itself recognised in para 5.41 that there was no doubt that the modalities of implementing the suggestions would have to be worked out. Identification of indivi-

duals due to retire with matching qualifications-cum-experience for particular jobs in specific institutions located in a particular place and acceptance by individual ex-Servicemen would be a major task. As the proposal is not only complex to work out but would also require appropriate measures to amend the rules and entrance qualifications, as well as the possible restructuring of the existing cadres, this proposal has been entrusted to the Ministry of Personnel and Training, for examination and finalisation. This recommendation is listed in Annexure-II to this statement.

11. Another set of three recommendations relates to the proposals for the enactment of legislation by Parliament as well as State legislatures to cater to the re-settlement of ex-service personnel under the concerned Governments, appointment of an ex-servicemen Re-settlement Commission (or Commissioner) and a separate Parliamentary Committee on ex-Servicemen. These issues were also referred to the Ministry of Law as well as to the Deptt. of Personnel & Training, and their views are being examined. In view of the fact that no such enactment exists even for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, it will be appreciated that the matter would require very careful consideration from all relevant angles. These three recommendations are given in Annexure-III to this statement.

12. I would next like to refer to the four recommendations which propose, *inter alia*, that amount of Rs. 350 crores be provided in the 7th Five Year Plan to be shared by the Central and the State Governments for schemes for the welfare and re-settlement of ex-servicemen. These proposals were also likewise referred to the Planning Commission and their view point is being examined. These four recommendations are given in Annexure-IV to this statement.

13. Finally there are eleven recommendations relating to modifications in the pension policy and terms & conditions of service on reemployment. The recommendations on pensions also have significant financial implications. These

[Shri P.V. Narsimha Rao]

have also to be viewed in the context of possible repercussions on the civil pensions. Matters have been further complicated by the pendency of litigation in respect of some of these issues. The implications of the recommendation relating to changes in the terms and conditions of reemployment and how they might come into conflict with the expectations of the existing civilian employees have also to be carefully gone into. All these recommendations are being examined in consultation with the Ministry of Finance. These eleven recommendations are given in Annexure-V.

14. The accepted recommendations are being speedily implemented. In several cases the required instructions have been issued by Government. It must, however, be understood that the implementation would inevitably be an on-going process. In several cases amendments of service rules, etc. will be involved. Even after the issuance of the Government orders directing that such amendments be carried out, the concerned agencies may unavoidably take some time to complete the requisite formalities. Similarly, in matters such as extending health coverage to ex-Servicemen in military hospitals, the infrastructure requirements and additional facilities can only be built up progressively.

15. Finally, as I have submitted earlier, six recommendations relate solely to the State Governments and the Union Territory Administrations and another 26 to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations jointly with the Central Government. While I have indicated the status on these recommendations in so far as the Central Government is concerned, it will be appreciated that every State Government will need to individually accept recommendations and as also the responsibility for their implementation. These matters have been taken up with the State Governments repeatedly at different levels. When the Kendriya Sainik Board, on which the States & UTs are represented—some at the level of CMs or Ministers—met recently at New Delhi on the 10 July, 1985, I utilised the opportunity to reiterate the imperative need to accept and

implement these recommendations. I am happy to inform the House that both in the Kendriya Sainik Board meeting as well as in reply to my letters, most of the State Government have in general terms assured me of their support and cooperation. I am keenly awaiting the final outcome of the action taken by them and we are regularly reminding them. While I am optimistic that a good deal will be achieved by these efforts, the results are bound to vary from State to State.

16. Hon. Members are aware that the Government has acted with commendable speed on the HLC's resolution of the 23rd June, 1984. As a direct result with effect from the 1st September, 1984, Government has authorised ad-hoc ex-gratia payments to those Defence pensioners who retired prior to the 1st January, 1973, involving a recurring commitment of Rs. 14.50 crores per annum. Similarly, orders have been issued recently granting the benefit of ordinary family pension scheme to the families of those Service Officers and personnel who had retired or died before the 31st December, 1963. Families of OR (other ranks) reservists who were transferred to pension establishment prior to the 1st March, 1968 will also now be eligible for family pension. This decision of the Government on the HLC's recommendation is likely to benefit about 30,000 widows and the eligible children of the Service Officers and personnel. The Government continues to have the same keenness to ensure early decisions on all the other recommendations of the HLC and the speedy implementation of these decisions.

Annexure-I

List of Recommendations which have been accepted/partly accepted or are likely to be accepted or are consequential in nature (para 8 of the statement refers)

ACCEPTED

Serial number	Recommendation number	Subject
1	2	3
1.	15.2	Definition of an Ex-serviceman.
2.	15.6	Special ex-servicemen placement drives.
3.	15.7	Lateral induction into suitable Group 'A' and 'B' posts.
4.	15.8	Improvements in the Discharge Certificate.
5.	15.11	Modification and amendments to Recruitment Rules.
6.	15.12	Revitalisation of Rajya and Zila Sainik Boards.
7.	15.13	Absorption of released Short Service Commissioned Officers.
8.	15.14	Avenues and opportunities for ex-servicemen in new areas for Nation building tasks.
9.	15.18	Dismantling of concessions after acceptance of assured employment upto the age of 58 years.
10.	15.26	Enlarged training opportunities for personnel during the last 18 months of service.
11.	15.27	Formal facilities for resettlement training of officers.
12.	15.28	Meaningful training programme for retirees by the Services.
13.	15.29	Equation of military qualifications, trades and professional experience with civil equivalents.
14.	15.32	Statutory reservations at the Central and State Government levels to help ex-servicemen in self-employment schemes.
15.	15.33	Services to encourage ex-servicemen to undertake small self-employment projects.
16.	15.34	Central/State Governments to accord preferential treatment to ex-servicemen in self-employment.
17.	15.35	Ancillary units by ex-servicemen for manufacture and supply of items to Defence industries.

1	2	3
18.	15.40	Re-arranging work of sanctioning of pension of service personnel.
19.	15.41	Simplifying the procedure for sanction and disbursement of pensions.
20.	15.42	Improvement of existing facilities in CDA (P) Allahabad.
21.	15.43	Grant of family pension to widows of pre 1.1.1964 pensioners.
22.	15.46	Code of Conduct.
23.	15.47	Chief Ministers, other Ministers and senior serving military officers should meet ex-servicemen during their tours.
24.	15.48	Revival of practice of Sainik Sammelans for ex-servicemen by the Chief Ministers and Collectors.
25.	15.49	Timely assistance and dignified treatment by the State Governments and District Administration.
26.	15.50	Service personnel should keep in touch with ex-servicemen.
27.	15.51	Service Headquarters should organise pre-retirement orientation courses.
28.	15.52	IAS trainees at LBS Academy to be given lectures on their responsibilities towards ex-servicemen.
29.	15.53	Ex-servicemen should themselves display a high sense of discipline and conduct.
30.	15.54	Amendments to Land Reforms Act and Rules to protect land holdings of Defence personnel and reservations in assignment of surplus land.
31.	15.55	Housing Boards under State Governments and UTs to reserve a minimum of 10% of the house sites/houses for the ex-servicemen.
32.	15.57	Children of retiring Defence personnel studying in Central Schools be given automatic admission in Central Schools at or near the place where the parents settle down on retirement.
33.	15.59	Existing facilities in military hospitals be enhanced for ex-servicemen.
34.	15.60	States/UTs to extend free medical treatment to ex-servicemen.

1	2	3
35.	15.61	Extension of canteen facilities in districts with larger number of ex-servicemen.
36.	15.62	Re-organising and strengthening of Directorate General Resettlement.
37.	15.53	Restructuring of Directorate General Resettlement.
38.	15.64	Revitalisation of Sainik Board organisations.
39.	15.65	Strengthening of Zonal Resettlement Directorates and provision of staff at Static headquarters.
40.	15.66	Maintaining a data bank of retiring personnel in suitable EDP system.
41.	15.67	Major publicity drive using all media.
42.	15.68	New publications/handouts for ex-servicemen.

PARTLY ACCEPTED

1. 15.56 Rent Control Legislation should provide for retiring Defence personnel to get back their houses for self-occupation on a time bound basis and under summary procedures, Financial assistance to ex-servicemen for house construction loans on concessional rates.
2. 15.58 State Governments should provide reservation facilities and concessions to the wards of ex-servicemen for admission to professional institutions.

LIKELY TO BE ACCEPTED

1. 15.1 Ex-servicemen as a separate category in the 1991 Census.
2. 15.9 Sponsoring of ex-servicemen for reserved and unreserved vacancies by Rajya/Zila Sainik Boards as well as Employment Exchanges.
3. 15.10 Dereservation of reserved posts for ex-servicemen, 30 clear days for confirming non-availability, Carry forward of reserved vacancies for at least one year.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF A CONSEQUENTIAL NATURE

1. 15.16 Maintenance of details data to match requirement of jobs in civilian departments.
2. 15.17 Modalities for assured employment upto 58 years of age.

Annexure-II

*Recommendation under consideration relating to assured employment
(para 10 of the statement refers)*

Serial number	Recommendation number	Subject
1.	15.15	Assured employment upto the age of 58 years.

Annexure-III

List of recommendations under consideration relating to the proposed act and related matters (Para 11 of the statement refers)

Serial number	Recommendation number	Subject
1.	15.3	Enactment of a comprehensive National Ex-servicemen Resettlement Act and a Draft Model Act for States.
2.	15.4	Constituting a Parliamentary Committee consisting of Members from both the Houses.
3.	15.5	Establishment of an-Ex-servicemen Resettlement Commission, (or Commissioner).

Annexure-IV

List of recommendations under consideration relating to ex-servicemen and the Seventh Five Year Plan (Para 12 of the statement refers)

Serial number	Recommendation number	Subject
1.	15.30	Establishment of a National Ex-servicemen Financial Corporation at the Centre.
2.	15.31	The proposed corporation could render all assistance including training to ex-servicemen for starting self-employment ventures.
3.	15.44	Proposal for a plan outlay of Rs. 170 crores at the Central and Rs. 180 crores at the State Government levels.
4.	15.45	Allocation of funds vide 15.44 to be spread over a period of five years of the Seventh Five Year Plan.

Annexure-V

List of recommendations under consideration relating to terms and conditions on re-employment and pension policy (Para 13 of the statement refers)

Serial number	Recommendation number	Subject
1.	15.19	Simplification and uniform application of orders governing initial fixation of pay and other benefits on re-employment of ex-servicemen.
2.	15.20	Non-pensioner ex-servicemen be permitted to count full military service upto 5 years and 50% beyond 5 years for increments in pay on re-employment but not for seniority.
3.	15.21	Seniority and pay fixation of Emergency Commissioned and Short Service Commissioned Officers who joined pre commission training or who were commissioned after 01 Nov, 1962 but before 10 Jan, 1968.
4.	15.22	Short Service Commissioned Officers, commissioned on or after 10 Jan, 1968 be permitted to count their full military service upto 5 years, and 50% beyond 5 years for purpose of fixation of pay on re-employment, but not for seniority.
5.	15.23	Ex-servicemen on re-employment be permitted to count their total military service for grant of various types of loans and advances as also for allotment of family accommodation.
6.	15.24	Suitable enhancement in the existing exemptable limit of pension (Rs. 250/-) on re-employment of officer pensioners in Government jobs.
7.	15.25	Protection of previous basic pay and grant of one increment in the higher pay scale to re-employed ex-servicemen on promotion to a higher post or grade.
8.	15.36	An amendment to the terms of reference of the Fourth Pay Commission for examining the pension policy of past pensioners.
9.	15.37	Rank for rank pension and grant of increased pension to old pensioners whenever pensions are revised.
10.	15.38	Appointing a permanent standing Committee for inter-relating the cost of living index to the pension.
11.	15.39	Restoration of commuted value of pension.

MR. SPEAKER : Does this elaborate statement need any more elaboration ?

SHRI KAMAL NATH : Yes ; a lot of it. He has only made the task more difficult.

The High Level Committee which was set up under the chairmanship of the then Rajya Raksha Mantri Shri K P. Singh Deo had prepared and presented a very elaborate and good report.

MR. SPEAKER : Ten minutes.

SHRI KAMAL NATH : Okay ; you are rationing everything.

Shri K.P. Singh Deo fortunately is here. The committee not only submitted their report well in time, but expeditiously as well. In the Foreword, which I found very interesting, the then Rajya Raksha Mantri Shri K P. Singh Deo has quoted from Winston Churchill, the late Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the late Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and has also quoted an epitaph from a war cemetery.

12.23 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

We all must be conscious of the magnitude and importance of the problem of Ex Servicemen we all must be conscious of. The magnitude becomes even greater when we see that every year, in the age group of 31 and 45, 20,000 men are retiring. About four lakh Ex-Servicemen are there today, roughly speaking. This being a matter of grave importance so I congratulate the Defence Minister on the expeditious action he has taken, because it is only from the 1st of January that the new Government has come in. The expeditious action he has mentioned in this statement says that out of a total 68 recommendations, 36 related to the Central Government. Out of these 68, 42 have been accepted, 19 are yet being considered, and seven are partly accepted, or are consequential.

For me, military history down the centuries; from the war of Kurukshetra to

the war of Viet Nam signifies the victory of man over arms. This, I think, explains the humiliation of the hamburger and Coca-Cola fed American GI in Viet Nam, Fortunately for us, our Jawans are not GIs.

Our jawans come from far more able and cohesive society and are rooted in a society with our Indian ethos. Last year, I personally went to some of the far flung areas in the northern sector at the height of 18,000 ft. where very few of us visit. At that time, Mr. K.P. Singh Deo told me that if I go there I will die. When I went there I had an opportunity to talk to our jawans, to our officers. One of the things I asked them was about the difficult conditions under which they live. What was that which bothered them most ? They said, "What will happen to us when we retire ?" It is not the conditions under which they live, the natural hazards they have to face, that is only important. What worried them most was what will happen to them after they retire ? How would they again become part of the national mainstream ; not necessarily part of the social mainstream but part of our national economic mainstream ? So, we have to look at the post recruitment of period ex service men. This word 'rehabilitation' is, I think, very improper to be used in the context of ex-servicemen. We are not rehabilitating them ; we owe it to them ; and it should be a part of the design of their service, just creating re-settlement boards is not enough. What do you mean by re-settlement ? These are not refugees that we have to re-settle them. They are part of our society who have given the best years of their life to the country. The parameter of performance of their service is not measured in terms of a balance-sheet or budget but it is measured in blood and sweat, in integrity and devotion. It is with this perception that we have to look at their problems, to look at the difficulties they face, once they come back to the civilian network.

Coming back to the points raised in the report of high level committee which has made 68 recommendations one of the points mentioned by the Defence Minister

is in one instance. He made a comparison and said that it will have repercussions on the others, on the civilian side. Why should there be a comparison with anybody else? Why should all their facilities or advantages they get be compared with the civilian side? The Defence Minister mentioned that the civilian aspect has to be considered. I do not agree with this, because we should not connect it with it at all. When it comes to giving some facilities, some privileges, then we make a comparison with the civilian side. I don't think we should do it; I do not agree with him at all. In fact, the ex-servicemen should have a national edge over civilians, and if we get into the groove of comparison with the civilian services or with any other services, we will be back to square one, because over the last 20 years, this problem of ex-servicemen has been considered, reports have been made, many speeches have been made, committees have been set up, but nothing much has happened. The first step is the formation of a committee. Then there are recommendations; then there is a scrutiny of the recommendations; then there is the acceptance of those recommendations. Acceptance of recommendations is only the start of the matter; it is not the end of the matter, and we should not consider it the end of the matter, because once the recommendations are accepted, then there is the question of implementation, because accepting a recommendation in a file or on a piece of paper means nothing unless it tickles down to persons for whom it is meant those who are beneficiaries of it, there is no use of any consideration, no use of acceptance of recommendations.

Sir, what the ex-servicemen really need is a second career. This matter has also been brought out by the High-level committee; but it is still being considered. Out of 42 recommendations which have been accepted this has not been included. It, no doubt, involves inter-departmental meetings. That is all very well. The assurance of the second career for them should be on joining service because they retire very young and we request that the Defence Minister must look into this,

because this is one of the key recommendations.

The other point in the recommendations that have been accepted is about self-employment, but the fixing of quotas is erroneous. Why should we give them only a quota when we set up some things for them? The hon. Minister stated that there is some legislation for scheduled castes and tribes. Why should we equate them with scheduled Castes and Tribes? It is not a question of quotas. It should be entirely set aside for them and if we take a case, for example, like petrol pumps, or gas outlets, we should see that they are entirely given to the ex-servicemen. If nobody from the ex-servicemen comes forward to take them then they can be given to civilians.

AN HON. MEMBER : Or after some time it can be given to the civilians.

SHRI KAMAL NATH : Yes, some time limit can be there some percentage can be fixed. We have to see that there is no clouding and blurring our vision with quotas and reservations. We should not do that. Now I will straight come to the questions which I would like to pose.

The problems of these ex-servicemen are diverse in nature. They are fathoms deep from different backgrounds and skills and the ex-servicemen have diverse expectations, aspirations and hopes. My question to the Defence Minister, is, now that 42 recommendations have been accepted, when will the real beneficiaries get the benefit of those recommendations? The recommendation about self-employment has been accepted. But when will they get the benefit of it? That has been mooted in the past also. Just saying that they will be given a loan of Rs. 5,000 and interest will be charged at 4 per cent or so will not do. These are all out-dated things. They are all neither pragmatic nor practical. Why can we not have a finance corporation for ex-servicemen, just as there is Exports Finance Corporation. When you consider giving them a gas outlet or petrol outlet or diesel outlet, why do you think of

[Shri Kamal Nath]

some questioned reservations? Why should we not give it to them exclusively.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Hon. Minister.....

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : I want to mention... (*Interruption*).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : After the Hon. Minister replies you can speak.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : I have no particular points to answer. Generally, I agree with the sentiments expressed by Mr. Kamal Nath. I would like to assure him that the Government have been considering these and taking steps whatever steps are possible since long, before he went and talked to the Jawans. So while I thank him for the information which he has given about what the jawans want I would like to assure him that the Government are fully aware about the worries of jawans on the frontiers. We are trying our best to see that those worries are set at rest.

As I said, the implementation of certain recommendations or decision taken on the recommendations is an on-going process. If you ask me by what time this will be done, I have really no answer to this because there can be no answer to this. Every year a new batch of 50,000 to 70,000 service men is coming out of the service. So, this has to be an on-going process.

The Calling Attention Motion really wanted to concentrate on what, they consider, delay in the implementation. I would like to say that there has been no delay. Decisions have been taken. Implementation has begun as decisions have been taken. We are not waiting for all the recommendations to be either accepted or rejected. We have been taking expeditious action. I have already stated what action is being taken. There are certain matters on which we ourselves cannot take decisions. The State Govern-

ments have to take decisions and implement them.

We have to take decisions after consulting the Finance Ministry, Planning Commission and the Department of Personnel. I have also told the House about the matters which have been entrusted to them. Mr. K.P. Singh Deo, who is now wearing a different hat, will have to look into this and tell us what to do. Only then decisions could be taken. To the extent we could take decisions in the Ministry they have been taken and they are well on the way to implementation. Orders have been issued. But as has been pointed out, these orders will have to be implemented on an on-going basis. I am prepared to report to Parliament whenever Parliament wants me to report from session to session, from six months to six months or from year to year. I am prepared to report to Parliament about the progress that has been made. We are equally keen on all these things. That is what I would like to say.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN (Jabalpur) : First of all, I would like to congratulate the Defence Minister because very recently he has announced that the family pension, which was applicable to people who die or retire before the stipulated date, will also be applicable to others. I think, it, very specifically, proves the bona fide of the Government of India that it is interested in the welfare of ex-servicemen and wants to give them benefits.

We are neither in doubt about the establishment of a high power committee to go into the details of the problems of ex-servicemen nor are we having any reservations about the Government of India's going in full steam for implementing the recommendations of the committee. We, as ex-servicemen, are sure that our comforts, necessities and welfare are in very safe hands of the hon. Defence Minister and hon. Prime Minister. We are very sure and optimistic that in times to come we will get all those decisions implemented whether the agency is the Government of India or the respective heads of the Services or the State Govern-

rnments or public sector undertakings or private sector. But the main aim of this calling attention motion is to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the delay which takes place after the implementation stage starts. What happens is that after the decision has been taken by the Government of India on the recommendations of the report of the high power committee, it has got to go to various agencies for implementation. Is it not the responsibility of the Ministry, the Chiefs of Army, Navy and Air Force through their agencies which are existing right upto the district level, to monitor the progress which is being done in the implementation and to ensure that the real benefits percolate down to every ex-servicemen ?

There are two types of ex-servicemen. One type of ex-servicemen is that who has looked after his post-retirement problem right from the beginning when he has joined the service. When he retires, by grace of God or ancestors, he has got land, he has got some business going or he has got some side income besides his pension. The other type of ex-servicemen is that who is not an officer, who is not well settled, who has not got anything to fall back upon. He is the person who is hardest hit by the delay in implementation and because of the lack of monitoring at the level of Service Head or at the level of the States or at the level of the public sector undertakings..... (*Interruption*).

SHRI KAMAL NATH : There is a third type also who join politics.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : Politics is a highly temporary affair. You have seen the misfortune of the ex-servicemen that even in the ballot of the Calling Attention, the name of the ex-serviceman comes last. So, I hope, at least at your level we will get some reservation..... (*Interruption*).

AN HON. MEMBER : Non-ex-servicemen are not in the list.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : As hon. friend Mr. Kamal Nath said, it is the

dignity of the man that is to be maintained. It is also one of the recommendations. I must bring it to the notice of the hon. Minister that there are Collectors in this country who do not see a Colonel or a Brigadier for three weeks. Have not a Collector got five minutes to give to a Colonel who wants to speak to him ? Does it require any constitutional propriety or a great decision at the level of the State Government ? I do not want to name the persons but the people feel hurt. There is a Brigadier who writes about the welfare of a Subedar to the Chief of the Army Staff and he does not have the courtesy to reply to the Brigadier. It is not that we require any job. it is not that we require any reservation; it is not that we require our disqualification to be covered by reservation, we want ourselves to be treated honourably. Even one of the recommendations also—I do not know when it is going to be implemented—says : “Chief Minister and other Ministers and senior serving officers should meet ex-servicemen during tours. Revival of practice of *Sainik Sammelans* for ex-servicemen by the Chief Ministers and Collectors...” I do not think any Collector in India has held any meeting of any ex-servicemen. It also says, “Timely assistance and dignified treatment by the State Governments and district administrations...” I also want to bring it to the notice of the hon. Defence Minister that in the last meeting of the Kendriya Sainik Board which is concerned with the welfare of the ex-servicemen, it was held by most of the States that the representatives who attended these meetings are of the level of not even Under Secretaries. There are some States which are represented by the Chief Secretary, by their Ministers, and there are some States which are represented by a member of the District Sainik Board or by one of the officials of the State Sainik Board. This is not the level at which the welfare is to be treated.

The main problem of an ex-serviceman today is the vacation of his house. Suppose a person has built a house and he wants to get it vacated. There are various legal problems which have been thrown between these welfare schemes which had been accepted. Today, there

[Shri Ajay Mushran]

are some States which have gone in for an Act under which an ex-serviceman or a person who is still serving can get his house vacated, but a large number of States, particularly the Union Territory of Delhi where a large number of ex-servicemen are affected, have not gone in for this. Therefore, I very earnestly request the hon. Defence Minister that particularly for Delhi, Punjab and such other States from where a large number of ex-servicemen or servicemen come, special efforts should be made at the Chief Ministers' level to get these enactments passed because an ordinary ex-serviceman cannot go to the court. He has neither the money nor the time. Some of them of the rank of JCO or Sepoy, cannot have the knowhow to go to the court.

The second problem is about the children of the servicemen and the ex-servicemen. They do not get seat easily either in the engineering colleges or in the medical colleges or in the Kendriya schools, where they are transferred. I have literally seen and experienced that no State owns an ex-serviceman. So, even if his son or daughter has qualified for the medical engineering course in competition, they do not get admission. I am not advocating for people who have got 15 or 20 marks out of one hundred. The ex-serviceman requires acknowledgement of the services done for the country. He requires acknowledgement for the sacrifices done by his family—when the officers and other ranks have lived in uncongenial climate and in family separation, as Shri Kamal Nath has said. Today in civil services if you post two IAS Officers—wife and husband—separately for three months they say they are facing great difficulties. Here are some examples of officers and men who have served in non-family stations for ten years consecutively. They must be protected. Their honour must be dignified. Their due must be given. This is my recommendations. So, the main problem for them is admission for their children in engineering and medical colleges so that in future of the children of the ex-servicemen is safeguarded.

Secondly the vacation of houses belonging to the ex-servicemen or those belonging to the widows of ex-servicemen particularly in places like Delhi and Punjab should be viewed with sympathy.

The best State which is looking after their ex-servicemen is Haryana. We are proud of the Haryana Government. We are proud of other State Government also, but we are prouder if they look after us and if they restore the dignity which was given to us in the old days. Therefore, I would say that these State Officers, the District Officers and the Chiefs of the three Services should give due respect to their ex-servicemen. I am very sorry to bring this to the notice of the hon. Defence Minister, but I thought it is my duty as a Member of the House and as an ex-serviceman to do so.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : Sir, again I would agree with the sentiments expressed by the hon. Member, who has special knowledge of the ex-servicemen because he is himself one amongst them.

Now, if I have to explain what has been done on an individual recommendation, what decision has been taken, how it is proposed to be implemented or has been implemented partially, I think I would be taking too much time of the House. Out of the 68 recommendations, I have given an analysis of a batch of recommendations on which a particular action has been taken. Similarly about another batch on which another action has been taken, I have given annexures separately. I am prepared to share all the information in regard to each of these recommendations and the decisions taken thereon with any hon. Member or Members who want to ask me about it. I am prepared to tell them what has been done and I am prepared to accept whatever suggestions they may offer in regard to what more needs to be done. I am not saying that nothing more needs to be done. That is why HLC was constituted. That is why we are taking all these suggestions in the wake of the HLC recommendations. I am also in a position to tell the

House that we at our level have been thinking of several new steps. They are still in the making because they are at the examination stage. I would not like to divulge them just now because they are at the moment incomplete. So, in that form I would not like to present them to the House. I would be in a position to present them at a subsequent time. But in the meanwhile if any Member wants to know what is the specific action being taken or proposed to be taken on a specific recommendation, I am prepared to give him all the information that is needed. That is all I have to say.

12.51 hrs.

STATEMENT *RE* : CONVERTIBLE
CUMULATIVE PREFERENCE
SHARES

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, As the House is aware, in my Budget Speech on 16th March 1985 I had announced that in order to diversify the market, a new instrument, namely Convertible Cumulative Preference Share was being introduced. Guidelines for issue of these Convertible Cumulative Preference Shares have now been formulated and these are being placed on the Table of the House.

*GOVERNMENT SAVINGS LAWS
(AMENDMENT) BILL

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : On behalf of Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh, Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Government Savings Banks Act,

1873 and the Government Savings Certificates Act, 1959.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Government Savings Banks Act, 1873 and the Government Savings Certificates Act, 1959.

The motion was adopted.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

12.52 hrs.

*INTELLIGENCE ORGANISATIONS
(RESTRICTION OF
RIGHTS) BILL

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the restriction of certain rights conferred by Part III of the Constitution in their application to the members of certain organisations established by the Central Government for purposes of intelligence or counter-intelligence so as to ensure the proper discharge of their duties and the maintenance of discipline among them.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the restriction of certain rights conferred by Part III of the Constitution in their application to the members of certain organisations established by the Central Government for purposes of intelligence or counter-intelligence so as to ensure the proper discharge of their duties and the maintenance of discipline among them.”

The motion was adopted.