

Demand of basic Telecom companies for having holding companies

3047. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:
SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the successful bidder companies for the basic telecom services are demanding that they be allowed to have holding companies with foreign equity which can have stake in these bidder companies for the sake of having the financial arrangement to execute licences;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether under such arrangements, the foreign equity in the bidder company is likely to go beyond 50%; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) No, Sir. No demand has been received from any successful bidder company for Basic Telecom services for permission to have holding companies with foreign equity.

(b) to (d) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

'One rank, one pension' scheme for ex-servicemen

3048. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the political parties in the Tenth Lok Sabha elections had promised "one rank, one pension" for ex-servicemen;

(b) the reasons for giving the old ex-servicemen "One time increase" in their pension, depriving them of the benefit of "one rank, one pension" scheme;

(c) whether Government propose to reconsider and implement this scheme in view of the growing discontentment among the ex-servicemen; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) to (d) Many political parties had favoured grant of One Rank One Pension to ex-Servicemen.

Ex-Servicemen demand for One Rank One Pension was examined by a High Level Empowered Committee (HLEC). The acceptance of the principle of One Rank One Pension was not found feasible for a variety of reasons including its incompatibility with the principle that salary and pension are inherently related to the time at which service was rendered. In pursuance of the unanimous recommendations by the High Level Empowered Committee, a scheme for One Time Increase in Pension (OTI) to pre-1986 Armed Forces pensioners was sanctioned w.e.f. 1.1.92. The OTI scheme has considerably narrowed down the disparity in pension between pre and post 1986 Armed forces pensioners.

At Present, there is no proposal to review the above decision. The Government have already appointed Fifth Central Pay Commission. The terms of reference to the Pay Commission inter-alia include examination of the existing pension structure and to suggest improvements in the pension and other retirement benefits of Central Government employees including the Armed Forces personnel.

विदेशों में उच्च शिक्षा संस्थानों में प्रवेश हेतु कार्य कर रही बोगस एंजेन्सियां

3049. श्री गोपाल सिंह जी. सोलंकी: क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने विदेशों में विशेष रूप से आस्ट्रेलिया, रूस और कजाकिस्तान में उच्च शिक्षा संस्थानों में प्रवेश के लिए दिल्ली और अन्य राज्यों में काम कर रही फर्जी एंजेन्सियों और दलालों का पता लगाया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार ने इस संबंध में क्या कार्रवाई की है अथवा करने का विचार रखती है; और

(ग) क्या इस संबंध में भारत सरकार और संबंधित देशों के बीच किसी समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए गए हैं?

विदेश मंत्री (श्री इन्द्र कुमार गुजराल): (क) जी, नहीं। सरकार को इस बारे में कोई शिकायत नहीं मिली है कि विदेशों में उच्च शिक्षा के लिए दाखिला दिलवाने के नाम पर फर्जी एंजेन्सियां और बिचौलियाँ धोखाधड़ी कर रहे हैं।