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|---|-----------|
| (iii) Children Education Assistance (@ Rs.1 lakh per child maximum for two children only) | Rs.2 Lakh |
|---|-----------|

**War Disable Boarded Out Soldiers**

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| (a) <i>Ex-gratia</i> (based on percentage of disability)                                | Rs.3-6 Lakh |
| (b) Dwelling Unit   | Rs.5 Lakh   |
| (c) Children Education Assistance (@ Rs.1 lakh per child maximum for two children only) | Rs.2 Lakh   |

The reason of delay in commissioning retail outlets/LPG distributorship is mainly due to non-availability of suitable land at requested location and frequent change of preference of product and location by beneficiaries.

**Honour to first Defence Minister of India**

273. SARDAR TARLOCHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether his Ministry has given any honour to India's first Defence Minister, Sardar Baldev Singh;
- (b) whether any other Defence Minister of India has been honoured by putting up statues around the Army Headquarters in New Delhi; and
- (c) whether there is any proposal to give befitting honour to Sardar Baldev Singh?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) The statues of Shri C. Rajagopalachari, first Governor General of India, Shri Y.B. Chavan, former Dy. Prime Minister, Shri K. Kamaraj, and Shri V.K. Krishna Menon, are in the vicinity of South Block and Sena Bhawan, New Delhi.

As per the existing policy, the Government normally does not install statues, unless otherwise decided. In case an organization intends to have a statue installed, it would have to bear the cost of the installation of the statue, purchase the land/site of location and obtain necessary clearances from the local body concerned, Central Public works Department, Delhi Urban Art Commission and other agencies involved in providing civic amenities. Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India is the nodal Ministry for this subject.

**Schemes for dependents of armed force personnel killed in naxalite attacks**

274. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of air force personnel killed in naxalite attacks during the last year;
- (b) the facilities given to their dependents;
- (c) the details of schemes for the dependents of those armed personnel who are killed in naxalite attacks;

- (d) whether it is a fact that benefit of all the schemes does not reach the dependants; and
- (e) the steps proposed by Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) During 2008 one air warrior, 776951-B Sergeant Mustafa Ali of Indian Air Force (IAF) was killed in naxalite attack at Pedia hill heliped on 14th November, 2008.

(b) and (c) Besides the Family Pension and Death-cum-Retirement Gratuity (DCRG), the following facilities and benefits are provided to the family of the AF personnel killed in naxalite attack:

- (i) On receipt of claim from the claimant, the Pending Enquiry Award is given to the family;
- (ii) Armed Forces Personnel Provident Fund is finalized on receipt of necessary documents;
- (iii) Group Insurance Society Grant is provided after receiving the request from the Next of Kin;
- (iv) IAF Benevolent Association Rehabilitation Grant, as applicable;
- (v) *Ex-gratia* amount, as applicable, is sanctioned on finalization of the family pension and DCRG;
- (vi) The eligible family member is entitled to Liberalised Family Pension, as applicable;
- (vii) Some additional benefits, as applicable, from Air Force Wives Welfare Association are also provided.

(d) and (e) The benefits of all the schemes reach the dependents.

#### **Delay in acquisition of new military hardware**

275. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's plans to replace the ageing and obsolete defence weaponry are making a sluggish progress with acquisition of new military hardware taking anything around three to five years;

(b) whether India has not acquired any new critical hardware like Howitzers, Night Vision Devices or Assault Rifles for the last five/six years; and

(c) what is the progress made on preparing a Defence Purchase Manual to speed up security hardware deals both single vendor and multi vender?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) Replacement of ageing and obsolete defence weaponry is part of modernization of the Armed Forces which is a continuous process based on threat perception, technological changes and budget allocation. The process involves formulation of a Long Term Integrated Perspective Plan (LTIPP), five years Services Capital Acquisition Plan (SCAP) and Annual Acquisition Plan (AAP). Procurement of