

(b) if so, the details thereof and the details of such doctors and engineers who have left their jobs during the last two years; and

(c) the reasons therefor and what steps are being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) There is no indication of any large scale increase in the number of engineers/doctors leaving the defence forces.

(b) and (c) The number of doctors and engineers belonging to Armed - Forces who have left the service due to premature retirement/resignation during the last two years namely 2004 and 2005 are 73 and 385 respectively. The premature retirement/resignation applications are submitted by the doctors/engineers in the defence forces mainly on grounds of supersession and compassionate circumstances. The interest of the state is kept in view while considering such cases.

Preliminary Selection Centres for Army Recruitments

†1528.SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of preliminary selection centres has been increased to encourage recruitments in the Indian army during the last three years;

(b) if so, the action taken by these centres as well as through them;

(c) the action taken in Scheduled Tribe dominated areas out of them; and

(d) the details of action taken to encourage recruitment as soldiers in Jashpur district of Chhattisgarh?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Wide publicity before a recruitment rally is given by the Recruiting Centre through State civil administration, media, Ex-Servicemen Association and also through motivation lectures in schools/colleges/ NCC camps etc.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) Every male citizen of India, irrespective of caste, class, religion and community is eligible for recruitment in Armed Forces provided he meets the laid down age, physical, medical and educational criteria. Youth from certain areas are given relaxation in educational and physical standards e.g. Scheduled Tribes of Chhattisgarh and North Eastern States are required only to be 8th class pass for Soldier (General Duty) and height requirement is 162 Cms as against 168 for others.

(d) Jashpur district comes under the Army Recruiting Office of Raipur. During last three years, 8 recruitment rallies were held covering the district. In the current year, one rally was conducted on 14-15th April 2006 at Jashpur.

The response was adequate and encouraging.

NCC Nagar at Bhubaneshwar

1529. SHRI B.J. PANDA:

MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that at the initiative of CM of Orissa, a NCC Nagar has come up in Bhubaneshwar for grooming the youth of the State;

(b) whether the Centre would provide financial/physical help to the state to raise NCC youth force; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) The Government of Orissa has allotted four acres of land in favour of NCC Directorate in Bhubaneshwar on lease in perpetuity for construction of office building and residential accommodation.

(b) and (c) The responsibility to provide accommodation for office, stores and mechanical transport for NCC Directorates and residential accommodation to service personnel posted to NCC at military/non-military stations is that of the Central Government. The Central Government has so far released to NCC Directorate, Bhubaneshwar Rs. 3.23 lakhs for survey, leveling and development of the land in the current financial year. In addition, 75% of the camp training expenditure will be borne by Government of India.