

Settlement of Widows of Army Soldier/Officials

497. SHRI KRISHNANAND JOSHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the widows of Army soldiers/officials who die while in service are settled/employed by Government; and

(b) if so, how many of such cases are pending in the Ministry of Defence and what are the details of each case?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes, Sir. In accordance with the instructions issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs (Department of Personnel and A. R.) up to two members of each of the families of Defence service personnel killed or severely disabled (with over 50 per cent disability and who have become unfit for employment) whether during war or peace, but if death/disability is attributable to military service, are accorded priority for employment in Group 'C' and 'D' posts in relaxation of the Employment Exchange procedure. They are registered by the Ex-Servicemen Cell (DGE & T) of the Ministry of Labour and are sponsored against priority vacancies in Central Government Departments and Central Public Sector Undertakings/Banks. Further one son/daughter/near relative of a service personnel who dies in harness is also considered for appointment to Group 'C' or Group 'D' posts on compassionate grounds by the concerned Directorate/Record Office in the event of there being no earning member in the family. Financial assistance is also being provided to widows of Defence Service personnel who are in financial distress by some State Governments

and out of the Welfare Funds with the Kendriya Sainik Board.

(b) There is no such case pending in the Ministry of Defence.

Air services between Delhi-Lucknow and Pantnagar

498. SHRI KRISHNANAND JOSHI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce air services between Delhi-Lucknow and Pantnagar;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what would be the fare structure on this route?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Vayudoot air service in Rajasthan

499. SHRI BHUVANESH CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 273 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 24th November, 1981 and state:

(a) by when the Vayudoot air service is likely to be started in Rajasthan to connect Kota, Jaisalmer and other prominent cities of the State;

(b) whether the preliminary work has been done in this regard; and

(c) whether the Government of Rajasthan have offered all the requisite facilities in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) Vayudoot services to Kota, Jaisalmer and

Bikaner in Rajasthan will be connected as soon as a suitable aircraft is selected and purchased and infrastructural facilities are made available.

(b) A study plan has been made for operation to Kota and Jaisalmer.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Seniority of Officers of Defence Lands Cantonments Service

500. SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) on what basis the seniority of officers of the Defence Lands Cantonments Service is determined;

(b) whether any review of the seniority of officers of this service has recently been conducted; and

(c) if, so, whether any writ petition has been filed following this review?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) Military Lands and Cantonments Service (Group 'A') Rules, 1981 in respect of Group 'A' officers and Military Lands and Cantonments Service, 1951 in respect of Group 'B' officers.

(b) Yes, Sir, about three years ago.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Accommodation for families of servicemen

501. SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of families of servicemen of all the three services who have to live separately on account of the field postings of the concerned servicemen;

(b) what provision is made for suitable Government accommodation for such families;

(c) what is the number of such families of all the three services who have sought accommodation; and

(d) what is the number of such families who have actually been provided Government accommodation; and

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a), (c) and (d) The relevant information in respect of Air Force and Navy is as given in Statement I of the Statement attached. As regards the Army, information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(b) Statement-II giving the details is attached.

Statement-I

<i>Air Force</i>	<i>Navy</i>
(a) A total of 136 Air Force Officers and 3175 airmen are living separately on account of postings to field areas.	(a) N.A. There is no field posting for Naval personnel.
(c) 66	N.A.
(d) 64	N.A.

Statement-II

I-ARMY:

Officers

(1) Officers posted to field service areas have the following options in the matter of accommodation for their separated families:—

(i) send their family at Government expense to a selected place of residence; or