

Pay and Allowances of Indian Soldiers Serving in UN missions

2496. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the defence personnel serving in the UN Missions abroad are not being paid their full allowances and pay as sanctioned by the UN in comparison to personnel of the other countries; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to restore full entitled pay and allowances to the army personnel serving in the UN Missions?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The U.N. pays a fixed amount of Overseas Allowance, (OSA), on per capita basis, to the troops serving in U.N. missions, regardless of the rank and category of the deployees. So far as troops deployed from India on U.N. missions is concerned, Government has been disbursing the OSA on a three tier scale, based on D.A. entitlement of Officers, JCOs and ORs. The troops serving in UN missions are being paid their full allowances as indicated above, in addition to their normal entitlements of pay and allowances. Government is not privy to the rates of pay and allowances sanctioned by other countries to their troops deployed on UN peace keeping missions.

(b) Does not arise.

Supply of Defective Mosquito Nets

2497. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Senior Quality Assurance Officer, Calcutta, accepted substandard mosquito nets supplied by two firms in April, 1997, which resulted in the rejection of nets valuing Rs. 1.80 crores;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

[17 August, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

(c) what action Government had taken against the officer concerned who approved the defective supply of nets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) and (b) Orders for 1,25,000 and 1,50,000 Net Mosquito Universal Khaki Square Mesh were placed on M/s Navbharat Vanijya Udyog, Calcutta and M/S Prahlad Rai Satnarain and Coy. Pvt. Ltd., Calcutta having a value of Rs. 2,68,76,250/- and Rs. 3,23,10,000/-respectively on 30.04.1997. Both these firms supplied the complete quantity of stores to the Ordnance Depot, Calcutta between 18.8.1997 and 22.10.1997 after acceptance by the Senior Quality Assurance Establishment (GS), Calcutta. Subsequently, Mosquito nets valued at Rs. 1.80 crores were rejected by the consignee as they did not conform to specification.

(c) Disciplinary proceedings have already been initiated against the concerned officers and staff responsible for the lapse.

Defence Minister's Talk with Intermediary of LTTE

2498. PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether during his visit to Japan he had made a halt at London and talked to the intermediary of LTTE which is banned by India;

(b) if so, the duration of his halt in London and the issues discussed with the intermediary during that period and whether Government had granted permission for such talks; and

(c) the outcome of the talks?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir. The fact is that during my visit to Japan, I did not make any halt at London.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.