

(b) if so, what are the details regarding the loss of life and property in these incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI DHANIK LAL MANDAL): (a) and (b) Information is being collected from the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations and the same will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

Shortage of Power Supply for Irrigation and Small Scale Industry

243. SHRI JAGDISH JOSHI:
SHRI IBRAHIM KALANIYA:
SHRI PIARE LALL KUREEL
URF PIARE LALL TALIB:
SHRI KHURSHED ALAM
KHAN:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that power for electric traction is being supplied to Railways by the various State Electricity Boards;

(b) whether it is also a fact that as a consequence of this diversion of power supply to the Railways, the supply of power has been severely limited for irrigation and small scale industry; and

(c) if so, what is the Government's plan to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Eight State Electricity Boards were supplying electricity to Railways for traction during 1976-77.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. Both Electric traction and agricultural pumping are treated as essential consumers for fixation of priority for supply of electricity. Small scale industry gets a low priority. Requirement of electrical energy for traction enjoys a higher priority but the quantum of energy used for traction is smaller than that used by either agriculture or small scale industries excepting in the State of West Bengal and Orissa. Therefore use of energy for

Railway traction does not have any appreciable effect of reduction in availability of power for agriculture and small scale industries, in other six States. However, steps are being taken to augment generating capacity to meet the planned growth of railway traction as well as that of irrigation and small scale industry. A much higher provision of funds for rural electrification for irrigation and small scale industry is being made in the plan for next 5 years as compared to the previous Plan.

Accommodation for Defence service Officers

244. SHRI ROSHAN LAL:
SHRIMATI MARGARET
ALVA:
SHRI JAGAN NATH
BHARDWAJ:
SHRI KALP NATH RAI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Defence Service officers who have retired during the last three years and are still retaining Government accommodation;

(b) what are the grounds on which they have been permitted to retain such accommodation;

(c) whether it is a fact that eligible Defence officers from the roster have not been allotted Government accommodation; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) and (b) Information is not readily available and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as it is collected.

(c) and (d) At present about 55 per cent of eligible officers at all stations have been provided with Government owned accommodation. In addition, hiring of private houses is resorted to wherever feasible. Further, officers are also allowed to make their own arrangements on rent reimbursement basis. Simultaneously,

depending on the availability of funds, fresh projects for construction of married accommodation are released every year. Allotments to eligible officers are made to the extent feasible under these arrangements.

Accommodation for married Defence Service Officers

245. SHRI ROSHAN LAL:
SHRIMATI MARGARET
ALVA:

SHRI JAGAN NATH BHAR-
DWAJ:
SHRI KALP NATH RAI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of representations received by Government for allotment of accommodation in New Delhi and Delhi Cantonment from married Defence Service officers, during the last three years;

(b) whether there is a shortage of such accommodation; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to provide adequate accommodation to the married Defence Service officers at these places?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) Two statutory complaints on allotment of accommodation at Delhi Cantonment had been received.

(b) About 2800 officers have been provided with Government owned accommodation and hire accommodation or have been allowed to make their own arrangements on rent-reimbursement basis. About 225 officers are yet to be covered.

(c) 44 quarters under construction are expected to be ready by 1979. 44 more quarters have been sanctioned. 116 quarters are in planning stage. Till such time as Government accommodation becomes available, further hiring of houses will be resorted to. Rental ceilings for hiring of houses at Delhi were increased in 1976. Rent re-imbursement is now allowed over and above 2½ per cent of pay as against 5 per cent in the past.

Normal Tenure of Stay of Defence Service Officers in the Capital

246. SHRI ROSHAN LAL:
SHRIMATI MARGARET
ALVA:
SHRI JAGAN NATH BHAR-
DWAJ:
SHRI KALP NATH RAI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the normal tenure of stay in respect of Defence Service officers in New Delhi and Delhi Cantonment is limited to three years; and

(b) if so, what is the number of officers who have been kept in the capital beyond three years and what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) The tenure for different categories varies from 2½ to 5 years.

(b) The number of officers serving in the capital beyond their normal tenure and the reasons therefor are given in the attached statement.

Statement

Normal tenure of stay of Defence Service officers in the Capital

I. ARMY OFFICERS

(A) Normal Tenure

- (i) Directors of Arms and Services, Officers of Intelligence Corps,
S. L. Cadre Record Officers and Officers serving in Electronic
Data Processing Appointments.

4 years.