

dents of disabled personnel and those killed in operations:—

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|---|---------|
| (i) Indian Institutes of Technology . . . | 6 seats |
| (ii) MBBS . . . | 8 seats |
| (iii) MBBS (Integrated) . . . | 2 seats |
| (iv) BDS (Integrated) . . . | 1 seat |

Education being a State subject, various States have also reserved seats in their Institutions for dependents of disabled persons and those killed in action. Details of such reservations are not available.

Statement

Brief outline of the various steps taken by the Government for rehabilitation of disabled Army personnel

In the matter of re-employment disabled ex-servicemen are given priority over other ex-servicemen subject to their being fit for the jobs in which their past training and experience could be useful. Disabled ex-servicemen are accorded Priority. I, which is highest available Priority for the purpose of employment to Class III and Class IV posts which are filled through Employment Exchanges. For appointment to Class III posts, educational qualifications are also relaxed for disabled ex-servicemen at the discretion of the appointing authority provided the disability does not affect the discharge of duties attached to the post. Orders also exist relaxing the medical standards and age-limit for recruitment to Civil posts, in favour of disabled ex-servicemen.

2. The skills attained during their service by the disabled ex-servicemen are also being developed and utilised to the maximum practicable extent by giving them technical training in appropriate skilled trades in which despite their disability they can function efficiently, at the Industrial Training Institutes where 5 per cent

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seats are reserved for ex-servicemen and also in some private institutions like the Queen Mary Technical Institute, Kirkee, St. Dunstan's Home for the Blind at Dehradun and the Red Cross Home at Bangalore. They are also being trained to engage themselves in self-employment in agriculture and allied fields like bee-keeping, poultry-farming, animal husbandry etc; They are being encouraged to form co-operatives, for engaging in these fields and also in motor transport, by giving them adequate financial assistance. Disabled Jawans are being allotted 'Jai Jawan Stalls' for running road-side shops selling tobacco, confectionery etc. Disabled ex-servicemen are also given preference in the allotment of I.O.C. Petrol pumps, gas agencies and kerosene oil agencies. They are also allotted Tractors on a priority basis when engaged in agriculture and also commercial vehicles, including taxis, three-wheelers and tempo for earning their livelihood, with suitable financial assistance loan. Land and Housing are State subjects and disabled personnel are allotted land/house sites in accordance with rules framed by the respective State Governments. Some State Governments are known to be giving priority in such allotments to disabled ex-servicemen but full details of the priority given are not available.

Self sufficiency in defence production

316. SHRI LEONARD SOLOMAN
SARING:

SHRI GIAN CHAND TOTU:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the items of defence production with regard to which the country has achieved self-sufficiency by the end of 1975-76; and

(b) what are the items of the defence production which are still imported and by what time the country is likely to achieve self-sufficiency in these items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEFENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI V. N. GADGIL): (a) We have achieved self-sufficiency in respect of Small Arms, Mortars, Light artillery and their ammunition. The items of defence production are include, vehicles tanks, armoured recovery vehicles, ammunition and explosives of various kinds and anti-tank missiles, etc. for the Army; Leander-Class Frigates for the Navy; Fighter, Transport and trainer air-crafts and light Helicopter for the Air Force; Communication Radars and Surveillance equipment for the Services. Action has already been taken to achieve progressive self-sufficiency in respect of these items.

(b) The items of defence production which are still imported include certain critical raw materials and sophisticated components or assemblies whose indigenous production has not been established so far. Progressive indigenisation of these items particularly those which are critical and are of strategic importance, is taking place. Complete self-sufficiency in respect of all such items is, however, not possible owing to financial/technological constraints.

Task force for framing uniform service conditions of workmen of Coal India Ltd.

317. SHRI S. W. DHABE: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Task force has been appointed by the apex body or Government for framing uniform standing orders providing for conditions of service of workmen employed in the Coal India Ltd; and

(b) by when uniform service conditions are likely to be framed and brought into effect?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) It is

a fact that a Sub-Committee has been formed by the Joint Bipartite Committee for Coal Industry for formulating uniform orders relating to conditions of service for workmen employed in Coal Industry.

(b) A draft has already been prepared and the Sub-Committee will meet shortly to consider the same. It is expected that the Sub-Committee will finalise its report by the first week of July 1976.

318. *Transferred to the 25th May, 1976.]*

Accidents in the Coal Mines

319. SHRI S. W. DHABE: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of accidents which took place in coal mines since the 1st January, 1976 and what is the number of persons killed in these accidents; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take for the safety of miners?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) Between 1st January, 1976 to 15th May, 1976, to fatal and 549 serious accidents took place in all the coal mines in the country. The number of persons killed in these accidents was 86.

(b) The Public Sector Coal Companies accord high priority to the observance of the highest safety standards. Amongst the steps being taken by them to improve safety are the following:—

(1) Activation of the working of the pit safety committees.

(2) Training of workers in safe mining practices.

(3) Careful review of all accidents in order to eliminate the causes of recurrent accidents.