

The following monetary grants are given to winners of gallantry awards belonging to Nepalese origin.

(a) Param Vir Chakra	15,000
(b) Maha Vir Chakra	10,000
(c) Vir Chakra	5,000

Broadcasts of taped messages are arranged from Gorkha soldiers to their families/relatives in Nepal in Gorkhali language in the External Services programme of All India Radio.

Allotment of free land to Army Personnel

*635 SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Army Personnel (Officers as well as Jawans), who did distinguished service during the 1971 Indo Pak War, have been allotted free land;

(b) if so, the particulars thereof, and

(c) the number of army personnel who were given such free land in Mysore State;

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI J. B. PATNAIK) : (a) to (c) In addition to the liberalised pension sanctioned to the dependents of the Armed Forces personnel killed in action and disabled service personnel, State Governments have been moved for allotment of land. To facilitate allotments, lists of winners of gallantry decorations during the Indo-Pak War of 1971 have also forwarded to the State Governments. No information has so far been received from any of the State Governments regarding allotment of land to such personnel.

Formation of Mineral Development Corporation

*636 SHRI DHARAMCHAND JAIN : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that a new Corporation by the name of Mineral Development Corporation has been set up by Government, and

(b) if so what are its functions and what are the advantages envisaged in setting up this Corporation

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI T. A. PAI) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The Corporation has been entrusted with the function of exploring in detail and proving the mineral reserves of the country in the shortest time. The Mineral Exploration Corporation in public sector has been set up with a view to intensify mineral exploration throughout the country. It has been considered that the functions of geological mapping and detailed drilling should be separated and given to different organisations so that proper attention is given to both these aspects and there is no overlapping. It has also been considered advantageous to undertake the work of detailed drilling by an autonomous Corporation which has necessary flexibility of structure and procedures as compared to a Government Department so that detailed mineral exploration is done in the shortest time and on a sound commercial basis. This Corporation will also be better placed in the matter of necessary liaison and co-ordination with the exploring agencies.

Service rendered by Army Personnel in the J and K Force

*637, SHRI JAGAN NATH BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the service rendered by the Army Personnel in the J & K Force from 1947 to April, 1957 is not being counted towards pension etc. in the Defence Security Corps establishment, and

(b) if so what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) : (a) and (b). Personnel of State Forces who were absorbed in the Indian Army at the time of the integration of the State Forces, were allowed to count their previous service for pensionary benefits etc. in the Indian Army, and this benefit was also given to such personnel as were subsequently re-enrolled in the Defence Security Corps. The J & K State Forces were integrated with Indian Army with effect from 1st January, 1957. The personnel who had been discharged from service prior to this date were granted their

entitlements of pension/gratuity under the J & K State Forces Rules. Such personnel when they were re-enrolled in the Indian Army/Defence Security Corps continued to draw their pension and therefore their previous service in J & K State Forces is not taken into consideration in calculating their pensionary benefits for re-enrolled service in the Indian Army/Defence Security Corps.

Non-payment of bills by the Coal Mines Authority

*638. DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN:

SHRI SUHRID MULLICK CHOL DHURY:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether he and the Prime Minister have received any memorandum from Bengal Industrial Service, Ranigunj and other small Colliery Stores suppliers about non payment of their bills;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Coal Mines Authority and his Ministry to provide relief to the small scale suppliers.

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI T. A. PAI): (a) and (b). The Government have not received any complaints regarding non-payment of current bills for stores supplied to the Coal Mines Authority Ltd. Representations have, however, been received regarding the non-payment of bill in respect of stores supplied by the small scale and other suppliers to the owners of the taken-over mines before the take-over of their management by the Government. The question of payments of these bills is under consideration by the Coal Mines Authority Ltd.

Integrated Steel Plant for Maharashtra

*639. **SHRI VITHAL GADGIL:**

SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR ADIVAREKAR:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Integrated Steel Plant proposed by the Government of Maharashtra in Chandrapur District has been approved by the Central Government; and

(b) if so, whether the project will be started in the first year of the Fifth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI T. A. PAI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Rehabilitation of Unemployed Graduates

*640. **SHRIMATI LAKSHMI KUMARI CHUNDAWAT:**

SHRI D. K. PATEL:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chemical and Fertilizer Division of Hindustan Steel Ltd., has implemented the policy framed in July 1971 by the Board of Director of HSI, to rehabilitate unemployed graduates on priority basis; and

(b) if not the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI T. A. PAI): (a) Hindustan Steel Limited has reported that no policy as such was framed in July, 1971 by the Board of Directors of the Company to rehabilitate unemployed graduates on priority basis, an administrative decision had been taken in 1971-72 to give preference to suitable unemployed agriculture graduates in the appointment of new distributors for their fertilizers. In pursuance of this decision, twelve organisations run by unemployed graduates are among the distributors appointed by Hindustan Steel Limited for the fertilizers manufactured by them.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply in Part (a) of the question.

Licences for Electric Furnace Steel Plants

*641. **SHRI VENIGALLA SATYANARAYANA:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the parties to whom licences for electric furnace steel plants have been issued during the last three years; and

(b) the names of these licencees who have set up the plants and how many of them have failed to do so, and the reasons therefor?