

PROMOTION OF THE SHORT SERVICE
COMMISSION OFFICERS

*684. PANDIT S. DUBE: Will the Minister for DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Short Service Commission Officers are eligible for promotion;

(b) if so, whether promotions are made on the same conditions which are applicable to the officers of Regular Commission; and

(c) whether the holders of Short Service Commissions are entitled to pension after 12 years of service; if not, why not?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR DEFENCE (SHRI SATISH CHANDRA): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes, in so far as acting promotions are concerned. As regards substantive promotions, however, SSRC Officers are eligible for substantive promotion to the rank of Lieutenant only, on the same conditions as are applicable to Permanent Regular Commission Officers. SSRC Officers are not eligible for substantive promotion beyond the rank of Lieutenant.

(c) SSRC Service is non-pension earning, irrespective of the period for which an officer is retained in service.

PANDIT S. DUBE: Who has got the option of resigning? Does it rest with the officers or the Department?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: Short Service Regular Commissioned Officers enter into a contract for one, two, three or five years as the case may be and they have the option to resign after that period is over. They are then placed on the Reserve list and are liable to be called up during a fixed period after their term expires.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINGH: May I know, Sir, if they are entitled to any gratuity?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: Yes, Sir. They are given a certain gratuity; they are not entitled to pension.

SHORT SERVICE COMMISSION

*685. PANDIT S. DUBE: Will the Minister for DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many Short Service Commission Officers have completed 12 years service;

(b) how many of these were given permanent Commissions in the years 1951-52 and 1952-53; and

(c) whether it is a fact that there is no difference in the duties of the two kinds of Commissions?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR DEFENCE (SHRI SATISH CHANDRA):

(a) There is no Short Service Regular Commission Officer who has completed 12 years service as such; but 14 out of those who now hold Short Service Regular Commissions in the Army have completed a total of 12 years service which includes previous commissioned service as Emergency Commissioned Officers.

(b) The number of Short Service Regular Commissioned Officers who were given Permanent Regular Commission in the Army is as follows:—

70 in 1951,

64 in 1952, and

46 from the 1st January to the 30th April 1953.

(c) Yes, Sir.

PANDIT S. DUBE: May I know if these people—the Short Service Commissioned Officers—even after 12 years service still remain as Lieutenants?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: Sir, nobody has completed 12 years' service. The Short Service Regular Commission was started in 1946 and 12 years have not elapsed since then. The Short Service Regular Commissioned Officers may sometimes be promoted to the

rank of Lieut.-Colonels also. But their substantive rank of a Lieutenant remains because they hold a temporary appointment. They get promotions in the acting ranks. If they are personally absorbed in the Army, they may acquire higher rank. But at present their substantive rank is that of Lieutenant. They may officiate as Majors, Captains and Lt.-Colonels.

PANDIT S. DUBE: In that case, what pay do they get?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: They get the same pay as the Regular Commissioned Officers.

PANDIT S. DUBE: On the same grade?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: Yes, grade of the same rank.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: After twelve years of acting service as Lt.-Colonel, is there any instance of a Short Service Commissioned Officer having been taken into the regular Army?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: Sir, as I said just now, twelve years have not been over yet. So this question has not arisen.

PROF. G. RANGA: What is the intention of the Government? Is there any chance of these people rising above the status of Lieutenants in their substantive appointment?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: It has been repeatedly pointed out that it all depends on the future strength of the Army.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: If officers of the S. S. R. C. are taken on permanent Commissions, are they debarred from being promoted from their substantial posts as Lieutenants?

PROF. G. RANGA: You mean substantive posts.

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: Of course, their substantive rank in that case may be higher.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: But when they are taken into the Permanent Commission, are they debarred from being promoted to higher ranks?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: If they are taken in the Permanent Regular Commission they may be given the same rank that they have.

MANUFACTURE OF ARMS IN INDIA

*686. PANDIT S. DUBE: Will the Minister for DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether revolvers, pistols and shooting rifles are manufactured in the ordnance factories; if so, of what bore;

(b) whether ammunition for these arms is also manufactured in those factories; and

(c) whether the arms so manufactured are available to the public?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR DEFENCE (SHRI SATISH CHANDRA): (a) Ordnance factories manufacture a Service pattern rifle for the Defence forces. No revolvers or pistols have so long been manufactured, though facilities for such manufacture exist partially. Attempts are now being made to establish the manufacture of Service revolvers, but it might take quite a few months to establish it.

(b) Ammunition for use in the Service rifle is also manufactured in ordnance factories.

(c) The ordnance factories hope shortly to be able to manufacture certain types of sporting rifles and shot guns and connected ammunition and to offer them for sale to the public.

PANDIT S. DUBE: How long will it take for the manufacturing of sporting rifles to materialise?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: One or two types of sporting rifles have already been manufactured by the fac-