

Audit of food served at defence canteens

2109. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has undertaken any study/audit of the quality and nutrition of food served at the canteens in the light of the recent news of inferior quality food being served at the defence canteens; and

(b) if so, details thereof and if not, whether Government proposes to conduct such a study/audit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) and (b) Defence Canteen, commonly referred as CSD Canteen are entrusted with providing consumer goods and other household articles to the personnel of Defence Services and other entitled categories. However, food served to defence personnel is not through these Defence Canteens. Ration for the food to defence personnel is provided by Supply and Transport Directorate of Army.

A study on quality of ration in Armed Forces was carried out during 2014-15 by Defence Institute of Physiology and Allied Sciences (DIPAS). The study report has brought out that out of the 53203 number of troops examined, most have found quality of rations to be good and above. Multilevel routine feedback mechanism exists at stations and formation level in respect of ration quality to ensure troops satisfaction. The feedback on quality of ration and suggestions thereon is analysed and perused at the level of Chief of Army Staff. The feedback in last three years has been excellent with no complaints on quality of rations.

Committee on rank and pay parity

2110. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has appointed a three-member Committee to look into the issue of pay and rank parity with regard to the military; and

(b) if so, what is the status of the Committee and what is the timeline for the Committee to submit its findings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) The Government has set up a three member Committee of Officers to look into Equivalence between Service Officers and Armed Forces Headquarters Civil Service (AFHQCS) officers.