

- (ix) Designating retired CAPF personnel as ex-CAPF personnel for better identity and community recognition.
- (x) Promotions are released regularly to eligible personnel as and when the vacancies arise. Financial benefits under Modified Assured Career Progression (MACP) are given in case promotion does not take place for want of vacancies at 10, 20 and 30 years of service.

Besides above, implementation of suitable model for improvement of working conditions of CAPFs and AR is a continuous process and instructions in this regard are issued from time to time by this Ministry.

Relaxation in the guidelines on National Flag

1035. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court has pointed out on the compulsory standing up in the cinema theatres while playing the National Anthem, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court has directed Government to look into the possibilities of relaxing the guidelines on National Flag;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the remedial measures being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJU): (a) to (d) The Supreme Court, in its interim order dated 30.11.2016, in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 855/2016, *inter alia* directed that all the cinema halls in India shall play the National Anthem before the feature film starts and all present in the hall are obliged to stand up to show respect to the National Anthem. In its order dated 23.10.2017, the Supreme Court observed that “we think it appropriate that the Government should take a call in this regard and, if necessary, as advised, may bring out the requisite notification or circular or rules. When we say ‘take a call’, needless to say, the discretion rests with the Central Government. The discretion has to be exercised without being influenced by our interim order. We may further emphasize that the discretion may be utilized to regulate in an inclusive manner or as the Central Government feels fit.”

However, the Supreme Court have not given any directions regarding relaxation of guidelines relating to the National Flag.