THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) No Sir, there is no such proposal at present.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Compulsory drafting of youth in defence services

2100. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has ever considered the compulsory drafting of youth, for at least two years, between the age of eighteen to twenty-five years to introduce a sense of discipline and respect for the nation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not framing policy for the compulsory drafting of youth in one of the wings of Indian Defence Forces depending upon their qualification and skill?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) to (c) No such proposal is under consideration.

Age relaxation for Defence personnel by UPSC

2101. SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Defence personnel of Army and Air Force, below officers rank are deprived of age relaxation provided by UPSC for Civil Services and Central Armed Police Forces exams as by the time they complete the initial period of engagement, the relaxed age limit is exhausted and if so, the remedial steps contemplated by the Government;

(b) whether there is any recruitment rule for the Tri-Services of the armed forces; and

(c) if so, the rule thereof and if not, the manner in which the recruitment is made in three wings of the armed forces?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) The policy on age relaxation applicable for ex-servicemen for

appearing in Civil Services Exam (Group 'A' & 'B' Posts) is governed by 'Ex-servicemen (Re-employment in Central Civil Services and Posts) Rules, 1979' as amended *vide* DoP&T Notification No. 36034/l/06-Estt.(SCT) dated 4th October, 2012. The following provisions have been made:-

(I) For appointment to any vacancy in Group 'A' and 'B' services or posts filled by direct recruitment otherwise than on the result of an Open All India Competitive Examination, the upper age limit shall be relaxed by the length of military service increased by three years in the case of ex-servicemen and Commissioned Officers including Emergency Commissioned Officers or Short Service Commissioned Officers.

(II) For appointment to any vacancy in Group 'A' and 'B' services or posts filled by direct recruitment on the result of an All India Competitive Examination, the ex-servicemen and Commissioned Officers including Emergency Commissioned Officers or Short Service Commissioned Officers who have rendered at least five years military service and have been released (i) on completion of assignment (including those whose assignment is due to be completed within one year otherwise than by way of dismissal or discharge on account of misconduct or inefficiency; or (ii) on account of physical disability attributable to military service or on invalidment, shall be allowed maximum relaxation of five years in the upper age limit.

(b) and (c) The recruitment in armed forces are governed by their respective policies, rules including recruitment rules, orders on the subject.

Dependence on foreign weapons

†2102. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country has become highly dependent on foreign weapons;

(b) if so, whether Government is contemplating upon taking any steps towards making the country self-reliant with regard to weapons; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) to (c) Capital procurement of defence equipment is undertaken

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.