

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the measures being adopted by Government to keep the morale of the fighting forces high?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) The Budgetary allocation in respect of Ministry of Defence excluding Defence Pension has increased from ₹274114.12 crore in BE 2017-18 to ₹295511.41 crore in BE 2018-19.

(b) Improvement in provision of facilities to defence personnel in the border areas is a continuous process and is attended to on a regular basis to ensure that all soldiers are provided facilities as per their entitlements.

In addition to pay, the defence personnel deployed in tough conditions are also given certain compensatory allowances (*i.e.* Field Area Allowance, Siachen Allowance, High Altitude Allowance, Island Special Duty Allowance, etc.). They are also provided with special clothing and ration as per extant rules.

Army personnel handicapped during training

†3373. SHRIMATI SAMPATIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that army personnel are rendered handicapped much more during training period as compared to a war;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to reduce such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) 908 Trainee Officers/Soldiers were disabled/boarded out during training from the period 2015 to 2017. Training involves a lot of outdoor training including Physical Training Drill, Games and Equitation Training which is physically strenuous and demanding. At times, some cadets are also diagnosed with some hereditary congenital diseases which get exposed during the rigours of training and may lead to invalidment.

(c) The following measures are in place to prevent/reduce injuries to trainees at Training Establishments:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(I) Physical Measures:

- (i) Organising of physical training in a scientific manner to make the trainees' body get adjusted to the training schedule.
- (ii) Detailed and regular briefing given to all trainees on preventive and protective measures to be undertaken prior to undertaking of all high physical risk regimes.
- (iii) Instructor to student ratio is enhanced while participating in high physical risk exercises to facilitate close supervision.
- (iv) Medical check-up on all essential parameters of each trainee conducted prior to physically gruelling regimes/exercises.
- (v) All high risk training activities are carried out under close medical supervision.
- (vi) Well-planned and organized casualty evacuation procedures are ensured, in order to ensure timely and appropriate treatment to injured personnel.
- (vii) Use of simulators/mock up prior to undertaking actual high risk training activities, enhancing training quality with reduced risk of injuries.
- (viii) A fair percentage of the faculty is qualified in sports medicine with expertise in prevention and handling of sport injuries.
- (ix) If any trainee is not able to cope up with the requisite physical training standards, he is given additional time and put through an alternate regime which increases the overall training period for the trainee and ensures that there are less chances of injury without compromising on training standards.

(II) Hygienic Measures:

Good accommodation, recreational facilities, food and other ancillary facilities are provided for a wholesome training environment at all Training Establishments.

(III) Psychological Measures:

- (i) Regular briefings on preventive measures.
- (ii) Meditation/Yoga for improving concentration.