

Employment data on ex-servicemen

12. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government gathers data on the employment of ex-servicemen;
- (b) if so, the details of unemployed ex-servicemen, State-wise;
- (c) the number of ex-servicemen seeking employment through the Army Welfare Placement Organisation; and
- (d) the measures taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir. Directorate. General of Resettlement (DGR) has been designated as the nodal agency to collect and compile the required data for facilitating monitoring of implementation of reservation policy for Ex-servicemen (ESM). DGR also maintains data on registration of Ex-servicemen for employment and their placement on Half Yearly basis based on data received from Rajya Sainik Boards/Zila Sainik Boards.

- (b) Details of unemployed ex-servicemen is not maintained.
- (c) Approx. 32000 to 37000 ex-servicemen are seeking employment through Army Welfare Placement Organisation (AWPO) per year.
- (d) From the data maintained by DGR where it is seen that the representation of ESM in Group 'C' and 'D' posts in respect of user organisation is not at par with the reservation prescribed, the user organisation is advised to examine the issue of deficiency and take remedial measures to make up such deficiencies. The user organisations are also advised to consider undertaking special drive for recruitment of ESM against direct recruitment vacancy reserved for them.

Modernisation of military equipments

†13. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the percentage of military equipments in terms of old, current and high-tech category respectively;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether the allocation made in the defence budget is sufficient to modernise military equipments;

(c) whether 'Make in India' programme is being used to modernise military equipments; and

(d) the details of the current status of all defence projects taken up under 'Make in India' initiative during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) The authorisation and holding of military equipments is as per operational requirement of the Armed Forces. Modernisation of the Armed Forces is a continuous process undertaken to keep the Forces in a state of readiness to meet operational and security challenges. The modernisation projects are progressed as per approval of Services Capital Acquisition Plans and Annual Acquisition Plans in terms of extant Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP). Based on the allocation of funds under Budget Estimates/Supplementary/Revised Estimates, sufficient funds are made available to meet the critical requirements of Services including Army. The allocated funds are optimally and fully utilised towards operational activities.

(c) and (d) DPP-2016 focuses on streamlining and simplifying defence procurement procedure to give boost to 'Make in India' initiative of the Government, by promoting indigenous design, development and manufacturing of defence equipment, platforms, systems and sub-systems. During the last three years (2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19) and current year (up to August, 2019), 102 contracts have been signed with the Indian vendors.

Proposal for corporatisation of Ordnance Factories Board

14. SHRI M. SHANMUGAM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would like to convert the Ordnance Factories into a Commercial Organisation;

(b) whether Government will consider upgrading the Ordnance Factories Board (OFB) on the lines of the Railway Board, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and Department of Atomic Energy instead of converting the Ordnance Factories into a Corporation; and