

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1026**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE DECEMBER 19TH, 2018/AGRAHAYANA 28, 1940 (SAKA)

WORKING CONDITIONS OF PARAMILITARY FORCES

1026. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Standing Committee on Home Affairs in its report dated 11th April, 2014 had expressed concern over the working conditions of paramilitary forces such as CRPF, BSF, ITBP, SSB etc. observing that they had 16-18 hours shifts, had to commute to their patrol location on foot, lack of basic and medical facilities etc.; and

(b) the reasons for such lamentable conditions in the paramilitary forces despite budget allocation of Rs. 54,985.11 crore, and the proposed steps to improve the same?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)**

(a) & (b) : Generally the working hours in the Central Armed Police Forces are 8 hourly shifts. However, troops are also required to remain alert and sensitive to any emergency situation due to operational reasons. Necessary leave/ training reserve is built in the structure of Battalions so that the personnel get rest and leave. Measures have been taken to implement a transparent, rational and fair leave policy and to regulate duty hours to ensure adequate rest and leave.

Continuous endeavors are made to improve the level of housing satisfaction for officers and men of CAPFs and for the appropriate budgetary allocations are also made.

The Ministry of Home Affairs have reiterated to the forces to ensure that the officers during their visit to posts may check on the aspects of living conditions, clothing, food and equipment and they may also take initiative to get free and frank feedback of the personnel.

Climate conditions affect some personnel of CAPFs posted/deployed in remote or hilly areas, but immediate medical services are provided to affected personnel. There are 39 composite hospitals for providing specialty services to the CAPFs personnel and their family members. These composite hospitals are common to all the CAPFs (BSF, CISF, CRPF, ITBP, SSB), NSG and Assam Rifles.

Improvement in service condition/amenities and welfare of force personnel is a continuous endeavor. Some of the measures taken to improve conditions of personnel are listed in Annexure-I.

Measures taken to improve the working conditions among the force personnel

- i) Transparent policies pertaining to transfer and leave of CAPFs and AR personnel. The hospitalization period due to injuries while on duty is treated as on duty. Choice posting is considered to the extent possible after the personnel served in hard area.
- (ii) Regular interaction of officers with troops to find out and redress their grievances.
- (iii) Ensuring adequate rest and relief by regulating the duty hours.
- (iv) Improving living conditions for troops, providing adequate recreational/ entertainment, sports, communication facilities etc. Crèche facility is also provided at various establishments (where feasible) to facilitate the female employees.
- (v) Facility of retention of government accommodation at the place of last posting (for keeping the family) while posted in NE State, J&K and LWE affected areas (except State Capitals).
- (vi) Providing better medical facilities, also organizing talks with specialists to address their personal and psychological concerns and organizing Meditation & Yoga routinely for better stress management.
- (vii) Adequately compensating the troops deployed in difficult areas.
- (viii) Other welfare measures like facility of Central Police Canteen (CPC), scholarship for wards etc. Also air courier service has been provided to CAPF personnel deployed in NE States, J&K and LWE affected areas as welfare measure.
- (ix) Designating retired CAPF personnel as ex-CAPF personnel for better identity and community recognition.
- (x) Promotions are released regularly to eligible personnel as & 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 & 30 years of service.

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