

CHAPTER NO. VI.

SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

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This is the last and the most important chapter dealing with the suggestions and recommendations that a researcher has to make in solving the various problems of resettlement and rehabilitations. The suggestions and recommendations are purely based upon the various findings of the study.

Of course the question of resettlement of ex-servicemen is a live issue. It has always been a greater issue in the recent past before both central and state government. It is really heartening to note that the government have been extending the various concessions to the ex-servicemen and their dependents. Many schemes for the welfare and resettlement of ex-servicemen have been introduced from time to time. Still much more remains to be done in this respect, considering the magnitude of the problems of resettlement of ex-servicemen. Keeping all this in view and the findings the researcher has to make certain suggestions and recommendations regarding the problems of ex-servicemen of Satara district.

1. PENSION:

a) It is an accepted fact that ex-servicemen get very meagre amount by way of pension. Taking into account the present price level the size of pension is quite inadequate, therefore it is suggested that the pension limit should



increased, say minimum level of pension be fixed at Rs.500/- per month.

b) Considering the percentage of non pensioner, it is advisable that they should also get the benefit of pension scheme.

c) Every defence personnel after his retirement having served for minimum 3 years be made eligible for any pension incentive scheme.

d) Considering the large number of IInd world war affected ex-servicemen (served under the British Government), it is suggested that these ex-servicemen should be included in the pension benefit scheme. This facility should be introduced immediately without the passage of time.

2. EMPLOYMENT:

a) The vast number of men and soldiers between the age of 30 to 45 years present a huge manpower asset and a major portion of 90 unutilised, when they retire they are still agile and fit to make meaningful and contribution to the nations growing economy. Therefore, employment of ex-servicemen is a serious problem in this district also. It is therefore suggested that more and more employment opportunities should be created for the re-employment of ex-servicemen. It is also suggested that in every industry alongwith the government employment vacancies be created and reserved for such personnel. These personnel should be given preference in the case of employment

in the various fields such as nationalised banks, Post and Telegram Department, Railways public and government undertakings schools and colleges and so on.

b) It is also suggested the government should set up a separate machinery both at the central and state level to look after the employment problems of such personnel. This machinery should be made responsible to see that every defence personnel is properly employed within two to three years from his release or retirement from defence service.

c) It is also advisable that this machinery should be asked to publish regular employment bulletin for the information of ex-servicemen, giving full details of employment opportunities available and reserved for ex-servicemen. This machinery may be called as " ex-servicemen employment bureau " to be responsible for followup action. It is also suggested that employment exchanges should also be asked to give preferences to such personnel.

d) Proper encouragement should be given for self employment ventures. It is advisable that there should be districtwise centre for counselling and guiding the ex-servicemen willing to under-take self employment ventures. This centre should be run by Technical personnel under the supervision and control of state government. The funds required should be raised through the contribution by ex-servicemen and

the state government. Financial assistance to the ex-servicemen at concessional rates should be provided by nationalised banks, government and other agencies.

3. Considering the fact of availability of waste land in Satara district and the percentage of landless ex-servicemen, it is advisable that step should be taken to acquire such waste land and be distributed among these landless ex-servicemen for cultivation purposes and to keep them engaged.

4. Considering the housing problems of the ex-servicemen in this district it is suggested that at every district and taluka places a particular area should be reserved for ex-servicemen for their separate colonies. This reserved area may be called as " Sainik Nagar ". This will ease the housing problems of ex-servicemen.

5. In this connection it is also advisable that there should be a separate provision for funds for giving financial assistance at concessional rates to ex-servicemen for construction purposes. The fund should be set up on the similar lines of H.D.F.C. This may be called as " ex-servicemen housing development fund."

6. The ex-servicemen and their families and the families of the deceased service personnel drawing pension of any kind are entitled to medical treatment facilities

under the government scheme. However considering the large size of population of ex-servicemen of this district, this particular facility is not adequate and sufficient. There is no medical Military Hospital in this district. Secondly most of the ex-servicemen are between the age group 50 to 70 years, where there is always a great need for medical care. At present there is only one Military hospital at Poona. This makes the great difficulty for ex-servicemen to avail this facility. Therefore, it is suggested that there should be an independent medical hospital to be run at Satara.

7. At present there is only one sainik Bank at Satara to cater to the financial needs of the ex-servicemen. The large population of ex-servicemen is scattered over the 11 Talukas of this district. Therefore, many branches of this bank be opened at different places in this district. In fact the bank has submitted the proposal for opening the branches, which should be favourably considered so that proper financial assistance may be given to these ex-servicemen.

8. There is only one CSD sub canteen at Satara, hence it is advised that such canteen should be run and established at various Taluka places in this district which will enable the ex-servicemen to make the maximum use of such facility.

9. The rehabilitation of war widows is also a major social problem. At present there are 153 war widows in this district, of them 18 have been given the housing accommodations. Therefore, it is suggested that every war widow must get the maximum benefits and facilities, such as financial, housing, employment and so on. At present widows home is located at Pune. Therefore it would be most appropriate to overcome the housing problems of war widows to locate such widows home at every district place.

10. The services preparatory institute (S.P.I) is at present established by the state government, at New Aurangabad in order to develop the qualities of mind and body of boys admitted to enable them to become officers in the defence services. Considering the bulk of ex-servicemen population in this district, it is suggested that such institutes should be established at or in this district.

11. Up to 1978 there was a special recruiting office (for defence personnel) at Satara. It is now at Kolhapur. Many of the ex-servicemen wish their children to join Indian defence services.* However every time they are required to go to Kolhapur or Pune for recruitment of their children. Therefore in view of the large number of ex-servicemen in this district such recruiting office should again be established at Satara.

12. An allowance up to Rs. 5,000 is being given to any freedom fighter in the case of his daughters marriage on the production of wedding card. The same facility be made applicable to the ex-servicemen in the view of their size of families, meagre pension and weak financial conditions.

13. At present the training activity of T.C.P.C. has been stopped and much emphasis is on the production work on commercial basis. No doubt the Industrial Training Institute have been established in every district of Maharashtra, however the seats are very limited to ex-servicemen. Hence there is still a great need for training to the ex-servicemen. Keeping this in view the training activity of T.C.P.C. should not be stopped.

14. Considering the inadequacy of educational facilities more and more sainik schools may be opened, at least one such school at every division in Maharashtra. (Poona, Bombay, Aurangabad, Amaravati, Nagpur and Nasik).

15. To meet the various financial needs of the ex-servicemen, it is suggested over here that there should be a separate ex-servicemen financial corporations catering to the financial needs.

16. There should also be vocational training Institutes or centres in every district in the State to assist ex-servicemen in their problems of resettlements and rehabilitations i.e. employment and self employment.

17. The present definition of ex-servicemen be changed to suit and adjust with the current environment and also to cover large number of ex-servicemen deprived of various government benefit and welfare schemes.

18. It is also worthwhile to point out here that more educational facilities should be given to the ex-servicemen's wards for higher education in the field of medical and engineering.

19. In order to give proper attention to the problems of resettlement and rehabilitation of ex-servicemen, it is necessary that a proper discharge Book be maintained giving up - to - date information about the released service personnel.

20. On the eve of proposed census of 1991, it is suggested that an every attempt be made to maintain a separate category of ex-servicemen in order to have the clear cut idea about the exact size of population of ex-servicemen, which will enable the government to give proper attention to their problems of resettlement.