

*Central Govt policy on voluntary nature of H.G.'s to be maintained*

NO.I-35012/1/81-DGCD(HG)  
Government of India/Bharat Sarkar  
Ministry of Home Affairs/Grih Mantralaya

New Delhi-110 001, the 10th February 1981

To

The Chief Secretaries of all States/UTs  
(except Arunachal Pradesh, Kerala and Nagaland).

Subject: - HOME GUARDS - ENROLMENT POLICY.

Sir,

Home Guards is a voluntary organisation. Almost all ranks upto company level are volunteers. A small nucleus of full-time paid staff for training, command and control is authorised at city, district and State levels. Both employed and unemployed persons from all walks of life are allowed to join the Home Guards organisation as volunteers in a spirit of service, dedication and patriotism; for the good of the community.

2. The Home Guards Acts/Rules of State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations stipulate varying lengths of tenure for members of the Home Guards organisation. After completion of their tenures, the Home Guards are eligible for re-enrolment. However, it is observed that in some States by retaining unemployed persons over a long period, erosion in the voluntary nature of the organisation is taking place. This aspect was discussed in the 8th Biennial Conference of Home Guards and Civil Defence held at New Delhi in November 1980. The Conference recommended that the voluntary nature of the organisation should not be eroded by retaining unemployed persons over a long period.

3. The above recommendation of the 8th Biennial Conference has been considered and accepted by this Ministry. It is, therefore, suggested that the State Governments/UT Administrations may please keep this aspect in view while re-enrolling unemployed persons or extending the services of Home Guards after completion of their normal tenure as specified in the State/UT Home Guards Act/Rules. It is suggested that as far as possible unemployed persons should not be retained as Home Guards over a long period so as to preserve the voluntary character of the organisation. However, every effort should be made to assist unemployed Home Guards in seeking gainful employment, on completion of their term of enrolment.

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The receipt of this letter may please be acknowledged and action taken by the State Government/UT Administration may please be intimated to this Ministry.

Yours faithfully,

*S. Varadan*  
(S.VARADAN)

Additional Secretary to the Govt. of India

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Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to the Commandants General Home Guards of all States/UTs (except Arunachal Pradesh, Kerala and Nagaland).

*S. Varadan*  
(S.VARADAN)

Additional Secretary to the Govt. of India

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