

Maximum limit of relief to pensioner for rise in cost of living.

6807. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that maximum limit of relief for rise in cost of living for pensioners of Central Government is Rs. 12.50 p.m.;

(b) if so, when this limit was fixed;

(c) the slab of pension at that time against which limit of Rs. 12.50 was fixed as dearness allowance;

(d) the maximum pay-slab of Government servants (working) when maximum D.A. of Rs. 12.50 for pensioners was fixed and the number of D.A. instalments and interim relief etc. granted to the working hands thereafter;

(e) whether the limit of maximum pay limit for D.A. has also been relaxed;

(f) if so, details thereof; and

(g) the reason why the upper limit of Rs. 12.50 as D.A. to pensioners has not been relaxed so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (g) A statement is given below :

Statement

On the basis of the recommendations of the Third Central Pay Commission, dearness relief was sanctioned to pensioners w.e.f. 1.8.1973 @ 5% of basic pension for every 16 points rise in the 12-monthly average of the All India Working Class Consumer Price Index subject to minimum of Rs. 5 and maximum of Rs. 25 p.m. The maximum dearness relief of Rs. 25/- p.m. was thus related to the basic pension of Rs. 500/-. After the first 11 instalments of relief upto the Consumer Price Index level 376 were sanctioned in accordance with the recommendations of the Commission, the Government decided to allow pensioners dear-

ness relief w.e.f. 1.12.1980 @ 2½% of basic pension, subject to minimum of Rs. 2.50 and maximum of Rs. 12.50 per month for every 8 points rise in the Consumer Price Index level, keeping in view the sharp inflation in the 1970s. Twenty nine more instalments have been sanctioned upto 1.11.1986 on this basis. The maximum pay range of serving employees for the purpose of grant of DA/ADA was Rs. 900—upto 31.7.1973. From 1.8.1973 employees drawing pay upto Rs. 1600/- were covered. From 1.10.197 employees drawing upto Rs. 2250/- were also covered. The pay limit was further raised to Rs. 2251 and above w.e.f. 1.12.1978; they were, however, sanctioned relief based on ad-hoc rates. Fifty instalments of DA/ADA have since been sanctioned to the serving employees from 1.8.1973.

Two instalments of Interim Relief were sanctioned to the serving employees. The first instalment was sanctioned w.e.f. 1.6.1983, the minimum and maximum amounts being Rs 50/- & Rs. 100/- p.m. respectively. The second instalment @ 10% of basic pay subject to a minimum of Rs. 50/- p.m. was sanctioned w.e.f. 1.3.1985.

The question of relaxation of the upper limit of dearness relief of Rs. 12.50 per month for pensioners will be considered on receipt of the recommendations of the Fourth Pay Commission.

[Translation]

Drinking water scheme for Ranikhet cantonment area

6808. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of water available for military personnel and civilian population in Ranikhet cantonment area and the quantity of water, out of this, available for civilian population;

(b) whether he is aware of the fact that the civilian population of this area has to face difficulty due to drinking water scarcity during summer;

(c) whether one more lift drinking water scheme has been approved for the