

Title: Need to implement one rank one pension scheme for Defence personnel - Laid.

SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR (MYSORE) : As per the Fifth Pay Commission's recommendation an individual is required to complete 33 years of service in order to earn 50% of the basic number of years of service rendered by them in case of persons below the rank of officers. However the criterion for retirement of persons below the officers does not depend on age but depends on rank. Thus Sepoys, Naiks, Havildars, Naib Subedars and Subdars had to compulsorily retire, in the past after completing 17,22,24,26 and 28 years of service respectively before the extension of retirement period by two years for all ranks. But their civil counterpart will retire at the age of 60 years irrespective of their grade and thus they are eligible to get pension whereas the persons below the officer rank in Defence Service will not get that benefit. Reduction in pension means corresponding reduction in family pensions too. These two yardsticks for the Ex-servicemen and retired civil servants are not justified. In order to remove this anomaly it is necessary to reduce the minimum number of years of service to enable them to earn the pensionary benefits. I also urge the Government to implement one rank one pension policy for Defence personnel irrespective of the number of years service rendered by them.