

Demand for Grants, 1979-80 in respect of Ministry of External Affairs voted by Lok Sabha

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant on account voted by the House on 16-3-79		Amount of Demand for Grant voted by the House	
		Revenue	Capital	Revenue	Capital
1	2	3	4	5	6
		Rs.	Rs.]	Rs.	Rs.
	Ministry of External Affairs	20,83,29,000	2,77,52,000	104,16,46,000	13,87,61,000

17.54 hrs. //

STATEMENT REGARDING REVISION OF DEARNESS ALLOWANCE AND PENSION ADMISSIBLE TO PERSONNEL OF THE DEFENCE SERVICES

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Government have had under consideration for some time the question of rationalising and revising Dearness Allowances and Pensions admissible to personnel belonging to the three Defence Services, in the light of changing conditions. Certain decisions have since been arrived at and I sought your indulgence to make this statement in order to apprise the House of those decisions.

In line with the decisions announced the other day by my colleague, the Deputy Prime Minister (Finance), about merger of Dearness Allowance with pay and other matters connected with Dearness Allowance, orders will issue extending similar benefits to all ranks of personnel belonging to the three Defence Services. I am grateful to my colleague, the Deputy Prime Minister (Finance), for agreeing to certain benefits both on account of Dearness Allowance as well

as Pensions, at my request. The broad decisions are as indicated below:—

(i) Merger of dearness allowance with pay at average index level 272 for retirement benefits with effect from 30-9-1977;

(ii) Payment in cash of the 6th and 7th instalments of additional dearness allowance at the higher rates of 4 per cent and 3 per cent with effect from 1-12-1978, these rates being adopted for future instalments of dearness allowance also;

(iii) Refixation of ceilings on dearness allowance as follows:—

(a) Dearness Allowance at 4 per cent of pay upto Rs. 400 instead of upto Rs. 300 with effect from the 7th instalment of additional dearness allowance;

(b) Dearness Allowance at 3 per cent of pay upto Rs. 1,000 instead of upto Rs. 900 subject to a minimum of Rs. 16 and a maximum of Rs. 30 with effect from the 7th instalment of additional dearness allowance.

[Shri Jagjivan Ram]

In general terms, the enhanced Dearness Allowance will result in additional monetary benefits to all ranks. By way of examples, the increases will be equivalent to nearly two years' annual increments in the case of the Jawan and one annual increment in the case a Subedar Major.

The operation of the existing ceiling of Rs. 2,400 of pay for admissibility of Dearness Allowance, was causing special problems in the case of Defence Service Officers, by reason of the fact that Officers of different ranks and seniorities were drawing the same or nearly the same total emoluments. This ceiling will now stand raised to Rs. 2,750. As a result, Brigadiers, Naval Captains and Air Commodores will now get substantial increases in Dearness Allowance. Major Generals, Rear Admirals and Air Vice Marshals will also get Dearness allowances—where they were getting none before—through at the maximum of their grade, the amount will be limited to Rs. 150 per month. That will also be the ceiling of Dearness Allowance made admissible for the first time, to Lt. Generals, Vice Admirals and Air Marshals, as well as to higher ranks.

Pensions are also being liberalised for personnel of the three Defence Services, with continued weightage in their case which broadly seek to recognise their relatively earlier retirements as compared to the civil side.

बीबरी बख्शीर सिंह (होशियारपुर :
पुराने और नए पैशनर्स की पैशन में जो फर्क है और जो एनामली है क्या उसको भी प्राय खत्म कर रहे हैं उसको करने की भी जरूरत है। पहले वालों को कम मिल रही है।

तब सरकार कम मिल रही है। यहीं नहीं मिल रही है। इसलिए कुछ नहीं करना है।

The quantum of additional benefit in the case of a Jawan is expected to range from Rs. 31 to Rs. 48 or so per month depending on length of colour service. The revised total of his pension, including Relief, is now expected to range from Rs. 151 to Rs. 188 per month in the case of the Jawan.

A Havildar will get an additional benefit ranging from Rs. 44 to Rs. 65 per month—his revised total is expected to range from Rs. 188 to Rs. 272 per month, depending on length of service.

A Subedar Major is expected to gain from Rs. 84 to Rs. 134 per month, depending on length of service, with the result that the revised Pension and Relief in his case will range from Rs. 376 to Rs. 617 per month.

Similarly, significant increases are expected to accrue to various Officer ranks. A Lieutenant in the Army and the equivalent in the other two Services is expected to have a revised total of Pension and Relief amounting to Rs. 625 per month.

A Major in the Army, a Lt. Commander of the Navy and Squadron Leader of the Air Force will get a total Pension-cum-Relief of Rs. 975 per month.

The Pension-cum-Relief of a Lt. Colonel in the case of the Army, a Commander in the Navy and a Wing Commander of the Air Force will be Rs. 1,050 per month.

With the raising of the general ceiling to Rs. 1,500 per month, it will be possible for Officers in the higher ranks to derive a fuller benefit of their last pay while in service, much of which was not counting for pension so far.

In the revised arrangements, Officers of the three Services in the respective ranks of (1) Major General, Rear Admiral and Air Vice Marshal, and (2) Lt. General, Vice Admiral and

Air Marshal, will receive the benefit of the enhanced general ceiling and will, in addition, be given an element of special consideration for early retirement, in comparison to equivalent civilian officials.

Thus, a Major General, Rear Admiral and Air Vice Marshal will draw a total Pension and relief of Rs. 1,375 per month.

A Lt. General, Vice Admiral and Air Marshal will get pension and relief at the rate of Rs. 1,475 per month.

An Army Commander, and his equivalents drawing the same Special Pay, will get the new general maximum of Rs. 1,500 per month, including marginal relief.

The present weightage, in the case of Pension admissible to Chiefs of Staff over the maximum amount of

Pension, will be maintained in the new arrangements.

Detailed orders are being worked out accordingly. Although, finally and carefully calculated figures are not yet available, I thought it fit to give some examples in this Statement in order to enable the House to appreciate the broad nature and quantum of the revisions being given effect.

The dates of effect for the new Pensions will be the same as announced for the civil services.

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned till 11 A.M. tomorrow.

18.04 hrs.

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The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, April 3, 1979/Chaitra 13, 1901 (Saka)