

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard and also in view of the fact that Pakistan has already equipped itself with F-16s which can hit any part of India?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE  
(SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) :

(a) and (b). Government has seen reports appearing in a section of the press in this regard.

(c) Government carefully monitors all developments having a bearing on the security of the country and takes effective steps to ensure full defence preparedness at all times.

[*Translation*]

**Disparities in Pension and other  
Facilities Available to Various  
Categories of Ex-Serviceman**

\*5. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the steps being taken by Government to remove the wide ranging disparities in pension and other facilities available to various categories of ex-servicemen ;

(b) whether his Ministry has since received the recommendations of the Committee constituted in this regard ;

(c) if so, the main recommendations of the Committee ; and

(d) if not, the time by which these are likely to be received ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE  
(SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) The pensionary entitlement of all Government servants, both civilian and Defence, is determined as per rules applicable at the time of retirement. There is no disparity in the application of pension formula to the various categories of ex-servicemen. However, there is bound to be disparity

in the amount of pension actually drawn by persons retiring at different points of time although they retire from the Military service with the same rank. This is because of the fact that pension amount is related to the reckonable emoluments, the number of years of qualifying service put in by the Government servant and the prevailing conditions of service at the time of retirement.

Government are aware of the hardship experienced by the pensioners and have taken various steps from time to time to provide relief within the available resources. The important steps taken with respect to the pension of ex-servicemen are listed in the attached statement.

Regarding other facilities available to various categories of ex-servicemen, there are no wide ranging disparities.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) & (d). The main recommendations of the High Level Committee are the following :—

(i) The legislation of enactments by both the Centre and the States to give statutory backing to some of the welfare measures.

(ii) The constitution of a Parliamentary Committee consisting of members from both Houses to oversee the implementation of various schemes and facilities for ex-servicemen.

(iii) The incorporation of ex-servicemen's welfare and programmes connected therewith, in the Seventh Five Year Plan with a recommended outlay of Rs. 350 crores to be shared by the Centre and the States.

(iv) The establishment of State Financial Corporations and the Central Industrial Development Corporation for ex-servicemen from within the recommended outlay.

- (v) A census of ex-servicemen be conducted with the 1991 Census.

### Statement

#### *Steps taken by Government to reduce hardship to Defence Pensioners :*

1. **Temporary/ad-hoc increase :** Temporary increase ranging from Rs. 10/- to 12.50 per month is admissible on pension sanctioned prior to 1.6.1953 as per old Pension Code. This increase is effective from 1.4.1953.

Ad-hoc increase ranging from Rs. 15/- to Rs. 35/- per month is admissible on pension sanctioned upto 33.11.1968. This increase is effective from 1.6.1969.

2. **Stepping up of pension :** Where minimum pension (including ad-hoc/temporary increase) fell short of Rs. 40/- per month, it was stepped up to Rs. 40/- per month (including ad-hoc temporary increase) w.e.f. 1st March 1970.

3. **Ad-hoc Relief :** With effect from 1.1.1973, ad-hoc relief ranging from Rs. 15/- to Rs. 35/- per month is admissible to those pensioners who retired prior to 1.1.1973.

4. **Periodic Relief :** Periodic relief at the rate of 2½% of pension subject to a minimum of Rs. 2.50 and maximum of Rs. 12.50 per month for every 8 point increase in the 12 monthly average of price index, is granted to all the pensioners irrespective of their dates of retirement.

The periodic relief admissible from 1.8.84 is as under :

- (a) Those who retired prior to 30.9.77 are entitled to periodic relief at the rate of 110% of pension subject to a minimum of Rs. 110/- per month and a maximum of Rs. 550/- per month.
- (b) Those who retired on or after 30.9.77 and are in receipt of

revised rates of pension arising out of the merger of a portion of DA (upto the average price index of 272) with pay for retirement benefits are at present entitled to the graded relief at 90% of the pension subject to a minimum of Rs. 90/- and maximum of Rs. 450/- per month.

- (c) Those who retired on or after 31.1.1982 and are in receipt of revised rates of pension arising out of the merger of a portion of additional dearness allowance (upto the average price index of 320) with pay for retirement benefits are at present entitled to the graded relief at 75% of pension subject to a minimum of Rs. 75/- and a maximum of Rs. 375/- per month.

5. **Minimum pension :** With effect from 1.4.83 the minimum service/family pension (including reliefs) has been fixed at Rs. 160/- and Rs. 150/- per month respectively.

6. **Ad-hoc ex-gratia payment :** Ad-hoc ex-gratia payments ranging from Rs. 10/- to Rs. 75/- have been granted with effect from 1.9.84 to certain categories of pre 1.1.1973 pensioners to mitigate their financial hardship.

[English]

#### **Reconstitution of Planning Commission and Revision of 7th Plan**

\*6. SHRI B.V. DESAI : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has taken a decision to reconstitute the Planning Commission ;

(b) if so, the main changes that are likely to be made ;

(c) whether in view of the reconstitution of the Planning Commission, Government are considering to revise the proposed Seventh Five Year Plan which was to be started during the current year ;