

**Pension to armed forces personnel retired during  
pre-independence period**

199. SHRI JAI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of armed forces personnel who retired during pre-independence period but still alive are not entitled any pension;

(b) if so, whether Government is contemplating to declare them pensioners to enable them to get pension; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU) : (a) to (c) No such information is available. The same will be collected and placed on the Table of the House during this Session.

**Cities clause in retail FDI**

200. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the farm companies are divided over cities clause in retail FDI;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) The Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion has released a Discussion Paper on the subject of 'Foreign Direct Investment in Multi-Brand Retail Trading', with the aim of generating informed discussion on the subject and obtaining the views and comments of various stakeholders. One of the twelve issues identified in the discussion paper is whether such investment should initially be limited to cities with a population of more than 10 lakhs (2001 census). The discussion paper and comments received thereon are available in the public domain. The comments received are presently under examination by an inter-Ministerial Committee. The Committee will examine and analyse the responses and provide necessary inputs for proposed policy action. The Government has yet to take a final view.