

**EX-SERVICEMEN EMPLOYED IN
AFHQ**

797. SHRI P. C. MITRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ex-servicemen re-employed in civil posts under AFHQ prior to 21st December, 1959 have been permitted to count respective period of combatant service for seniority for determination of confirmation and promotions;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Ex-servicemen re-employed on 1st July, 1966 and onward have been benefited by Ministry of Home Affairs Memorandum dated 4th July, 1966 which directs that 10 per cent of the permanent vacancies in civil posts will be filled up exclusively by the Ex-servicemen; and

(c) if the answer to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, the reasons for which the Ex-servicemen re-employed in civil posts under AFHQ during period from 22nd December, 1959 to 30th June, 1966 have been deprived of either of the benefits enumerated in parts (a) and (b) above?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH): (a) Ex-servicemen appointed in AFHQ and Inter-Service Organisations in the grade of Lower Division Clerk before 22nd December, 1959 without any break in service are eligible to count their combatant service for seniority for confirmation in that grade subject to the conditions prescribed and to the extent admissible, under the relevant orders.

(b) and (c) Certain points relating to the scope and manner of Implementation of the orders in the Ministry of Home Affairs Office Memorandum No. 14/26/64-Estt(D), dated 4th July 1966 are under consideration of Government, including the question whether ex-servicemen who were re-employed prior to 1st July, 1966

against temporary vacancies can be confirmed against the 10 per cent reserved permanent vacancies.

**AGREEMENT ON 'SUSPENSION OF
OPERATIONS'**

798. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reported announcement of the leader, 'of the Naga hostiles extending the Agreement on 'Suspension of Operations' unilaterally without waiting for the consent of the Government of India; and

(b) if s'o, whether Government has since consented to the extension of, the Agreement; and the date up to which it has been extended?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI M. C. CHAGLA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Suspension of Operations Agreement has been extended up to 31st August, 1967.

RETRENCHMENT OF THE ARMY OFFICERS

799. SHRI K. S. CHAVDA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Army Officers retrenched from January 1967 to first week of June 1967; and

(b) the number of such retrenched officers who have been provided with alternative Government employment?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH): (a) Nil. The phased programme of release of Emergency Commissioned Officers in batches during the years 1967—70, will commence from July 1967 only.

(b) Does not arise. However, the Emergency Commissioned Officers who will be released according to the phased programme will be con-