

represented their case personally to the Defence Minister; and if so, what action has been taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR DEFENCE (SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA): (a) 2,965 as under:

1. Employed in Government Service	2,237
2. Settled on land on individual basis	680
3. Settled on land colonies	40
4. Vocational Technical Training	8
TOTAL	2,965

(b) The Secretary of the Rajasthan Kshatriya Mahasabha saw the Minister for Defence Organization about the grievances of the released personnel of the State Forces. Subsequently, he submitted a representation through a Member of Parliament. This is being examined and a reply will be sent soon.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: May I know if the number of demobilised persons is more than 15,000 and what are the persons which the hon. Minister has included in the number which he has given?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: The total number is 10,708, and I have given the figures of those who are re-employed.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Did not the representation submitted to the hon. Minister mention the number as 22,000? Which of those persons are recognised as demobilised and retrenched persons?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: I only recognise those persons who had served in the Army as eligible. Those who had not served in the Army are not eligible.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: What is the number mentioned in the representation?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: I have not got the representation in front of me, but this is the figure, we have got, of the persons who served in the State Forces.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Is it not a fact that in spite of the fact that it is four years now, there are so many pension claims still pending?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: The position is not so dark as the hon. Member makes out. The total number of cases involved is 11,166. Out of that, 10,807 have already been settled, thus leaving only 359 cases.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Will the office for the settlement of these claims continue in Jaipur till all the pensions are settled?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: Yes, it is continuing till all the pension claims are settled.

CONFERENCE OF THE CHIEF JUSTICES OF HIGH COURTS IN INDIA

*462. SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Will the Minister for HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a conference of the Chief Justices of High Courts in India was held during the last month at the instance of the Ministry of Home Affairs;

(b) whether any recommendations were made by this conference to the Government of India; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, what action has been taken on those recommendations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI B. N. DATAR): (a) No, the conference of the Chief Justices of High Courts was summoned by the Chief Justice of India.

(b) No recommendations have so far been made to the Government of India.

(c) Does not arise.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Is not the Government aware of the discussions which were held at this conference?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: Government are aware to the extent that they have been published in the press.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Has this Government not felt the necessity for such a conference, because so many such questions have been pending?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: The necessity was felt by the Chief Justice of India mostly for the purpose of maintaining or introducing uniformity of practice in the High Courts and the Supreme Court.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: May I know whether many of the questions which were pending and which were discussed are such that they can be settled by the Government of India and by the Government of India alone?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: If I may say so from the reports published in the press, there are only two or three matters with which we are concerned, and in respect of some of them, we have already taken action.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: What are those matters in connection with which the Government of India has already taken action?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: One is about changing their conditions of service. For that we are going to place a Bill before Parliament. So far as the question of delay in the appointment of judges is concerned, that matter is also being attended to.

SHRI RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: The judicial reforms that were published in yesterday's newspapers, were they also on the agenda of the Chief Justices' conference?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: I do not find it in the copy of the agenda that I have got.

DR. P. C. MITRA: May I know whether in this conference the question of

the separation of the judiciary from the executive and also the question of the speedier trial of cases were discussed?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: The full proceedings have not been published. I cannot say whether they were discussed.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: May I know whether the Law Ministry of the Government of India was invited to attend this conference?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: No, Sir, so far as I am aware.

ABOLITION OF INTERNAL CUSTOMS DUTY IN STATES

*463. SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Will the Minister for STATES be pleased to state:

(a) what progress, if any, has been made towards the abolition of the internal customs duties in the various Part B and Part C States; and

(b) what steps are proposed to be taken to make up the deficiency in revenue arising out of this abolition of duty?

THE MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS AND STATES (DR. K. N. KATJU): (a) and (b). A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, Annexure No. 158.]

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Sir, you will find from the statement that with the exception of Rajasthan, the duties have been gradually decreased in all the other States. What are the reasons that Rajasthan has not been able to do any thing in the matter?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: I have no information as to why Rajasthan has not been able to take action completely, but they are likely to do so as early as possible.