

batant terms, at the time they were granted emergency commissions.

(b) No. All these personnel retain a lien on their civil appointments. The terms under which these personnel were granted emergency commissions made it clear that those who retained a lien on their civil appointments and counted their combatant service for pension under civil rules would not be eligible for military rates of pension.

SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA : May I know if the same conditions of service applied before Independence ?

SHRI N. GOPALASWAMI : I must make a research about that and I want notice for that.

9 a.m.

TIME LIMIT FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF PENSION CLAIMS OF MILITARY OFFICERS

*94. SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA : Will the Minister for DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any time limit laid down for final settlement of pension claims of military officers who have retired after attaining the age of 55 years ; and

(b) whether there are any such claims pending for more than two years and if so, what action Government propose to take to expedite settlement of such claims ?

THE MINISTER FOR DEFENCE (SHRI N. GOPALASWAMI) : (a) No, pension claims are finalised as expeditiously as possible after an officer's retirement.

(b) There is no case under the present rules pending for more than two years in which pension has not been finalised. The second part of the question does not, therefore, arise.

SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA : May I know whether they were given any family allowance in the past ?

SHRI N. GOPALASWAMI : Where there is some delay in finalizing the sanctioning of the pension, we

do sanction a provisional pension to be given until the orders as to pension issue.

SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA : May I know whether there is no delay and no hardship caused to families of officers ?

SHRI N. GOPALASWAMI : There may have been some delays and some hardships in some cases. I cannot rule that out.

PURCHASE OF JEEPS

*95. SHRI H. N. KUNZRU : Will the Minister for DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) (i) whether the Government placed an order with Sir James Marshall Cornwall and Partners Limited, for 1,007 jeeps in 1951 ;

(ii) whether the firm promised to supply 68 jeeps per month and to complete their delivery by September 1952 ;

(b) whether the firm referred to above asked for an increase in the stipulated price of a jeep ; if so, what was the increase asked for and whether Government agreed to it ;

(c) how many jeeps have so far been received ; and

(d) whether the balance will be received by the end of September 1952, if not, what action Government propose to take in the matter ?

THE MINISTER FOR DEFENCE (SHRI N. GOPALASWAMI) : (a) (i) Yes.

(ii) Yes.

(b) The firm suggested that on account of increases in world prices, there should be an increase in the price but did not suggest any specific figure. Government has not agreed to an increase in the prices.

(c) 50.

(d) The balance is not likely to be received by the end of September. Steps preliminary to initiation of advised legal action have been taken.