(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In compliance of the Hon’ble Supreme Court judgment dated 27.10.2016, Ministry of Defence issued letter No.4/10/2017/Dx(P/L) dated 26.09.2017 to implement the order. A total 3828 ex-sailors applied for Special Pension. However, on scrutiny of records, only 568 were found eligible. Accordingly, blank forms were sent to them. As per records, out of 568 ex-sailors, only 450 have submitted the forms.

(c) and (d) In compliance of Hon’ble Supreme Court judgment dated 27.09.2018, Ministry of Defence issued letter No.4(10)/2017-D(Pen/Legal) dated 22.10.2018, for grant of Special Pension under Regulation 95 of Navy (Pension) Regulation, 1964 to eligible ex-sailors at an uniform rate of ₹ 9000/- per month.

Effect of LEMOA, BECA, COMCASA agreements on access to military spaces

1931. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Logistic Exchange Memorandum of Agreement (LEMOA), Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement (BECa), Communications Compatibility and Security Agreement (COMCASA) will further allow to access military spaces; and

(b) if so, the details of affect on military structure and future security challenges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) and (b) Agreements such as the LEMOA and COMCASA with the United States provide enabling framework for cooperation between Indian armed forces and their United States counterparts in specific circumstances. These Agreements do not provide unfettered access to each other’s military facilities. India shall continue to exercise full control over access to its military facilities.

Defence expenditure as per centage of total expenditure

1932. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that defence expenditure as a per centage of total Central Government expenditure has declined from 2014-15 to 2017-18;

(b) whether Government plans to allocate greater financial resources for defence preparedness; and
(c) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) to (c) Details of defence expenditure vis-à-vis Central Government Expenditure from 2014-15 to 2017-18 is as follows:–

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Defence Expenditure*</th>
<th>Total CGE (Actuals)</th>
<th>Def. Exp % of CGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>285103.95</td>
<td>16,63,673</td>
<td>17.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>294054.93</td>
<td>17,90,783</td>
<td>16.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016-17</td>
<td>377542.01</td>
<td>19,75,194</td>
<td>19.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-18</td>
<td>380690.97</td>
<td>22,17,750</td>
<td>17.16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* including Defence Pension.

It is true that the Defence expenditure as per per centage of Central Government. Expenditure has fallen, however, the Defence expenditure in absolute terms has been showing a steady increase.

The projections made by the Services are forwarded to Ministry of Finance for favourable consideration as it is the nodal Ministry for allocation of funds. Based on the overall resource position, funds are allocated by Ministry of Finance. While distributing these allocations among the Services, it is ensured that sufficient funds are available to meet critical requirements.

Also depending on expenditure during the year and additional requirements projected, funds are sought at Supplementary/Revised Estimate (RE) stage. The allocated funds are optimally and fully utilized towards operational activities. Further, if required, schemes are reprioritized to ensure that urgent and critical capabilities are acquired without any compromise to operational preparedness.

**Grant of disability pension**

1933. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided not to grant disability pension to officers of Armed Forces who have opted for Voluntary retirement;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, by when this pension would be granted to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) to (c) As per Ministry of Defence order dated 31.01.2001,