

13.47 hrs.

STATEMENT RE: FURTHER INSTALMENT OF DEARNESS ALLOWANCE TO CENTRAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES AND DEARNESS RELIEF TO PENSIONERS.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE
(SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN):

Speaker Sir,

Under the existing Dearness Allowance Scheme as applicable to the Central Government employees, an instalment of dearness allowance to the Central Government employees become due for consideration after every 8-point increase in the 12-monthly average of the Consumer Price Index. On this basis, the last dearness allowance instalment was paid to the employees from 1-2-80, with reference to the index average of 352. At the end of April 1980, the index average crossed 360 points and consequently a further dearness allowance instalment to the employees from 1-5-1980 became due for consideration. The Government have decided to pay this instalment in cash. Orders for its payment will issue shortly. This instalment will benefit the employees getting pay upto Rs. 1600 per mensem, with marginal adjustments. The instalment will cost the exchequer Rs. 51.66 crores during the current financial year, the annual cost of the instalment being Rs. 62 crores.

2 Under the existing scheme relating to dearness relief to the Central Government pensioners including family pensioners, an instalment of the relief at the rate of 5 per cent of pension subject to a minimum of Rs. 5 and a maximum of Rs. 25 per mensem is considered after every 16-point increase in the 12-monthly average of the Consumer Price Index. On this basis, the last instalment was paid to the pensioners from 1-11-1979 with

reference to the index average of 344. With the index average crossing 360 points at the end of April 1980, another instalment of the relief from 1-5-1980 became due for consideration. The Government have decided to pay the instalment, which will cost the exchequer Rs. 7.66 crores during 1980-81, the annual cost of the instalment being Rs. 9.20 crores.

3. Budget provision for this expenditure already exists in the Estimates for the year 1980-81.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL (Jaipur): Will the hon. Finance Minister please let us know whether another instalment has become due from 1st July, 1980?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Let us cross the bridge when we come to it.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Why don't you announce it now?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: It has not come.

13.49 hrs.

TERRITORIAL ARMY (AMENDMENT) BILL

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI
C. P. N. SINGH):

Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Territorial Army Act, 1948.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Territorial Army Act, 1948."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI C. P. N. SINGH: Sir, I introduce the Bill.