GOVERNMENT OF KERALA Finance Department CIRCULAR

No.44/76/Fin.

Dated, Trivandrum, 14th May, 1976.

Sub: Military Service –Counting for purpose of Civil pension- verification Certificate-Directions issued.

- Ref: 1. Letter No.18 (3) 75/D.Civil dated 27-1-1975 from the Government of India, Ministry of Defence, New Delhi.
 - 2. Letter No 18(12) 75-D Civil-II dated 25-11-1975 from the Government of India. Ministry of Defence, New Delhi.

Under Rule 8 (b) & (c) Part III, Kerala Service Rules, War/Military Service rendered by re-employed ex-servicemen in the civil posts. will count for pension. For this, the Military Verification Certificate duly counter-signed by the concerned Controller of Defence Accounts has to be produced. But a number of cases have been reported to Government in which the concerned Records Section of the Defence Department has stated that the Record Section is not in a position to furnish the Military Verification Certificate for the reason that the connected records were destroyed due to lapse of time. In such cases thought the fault is not that of the reemployed ex-servicemen, the War/Military Service rendered by them cannot be counted for civil pension.

The State Government took up the matter with the Government of India and sought clarification whether War Military service rendered by such persons can be counted towards civil pension based on the Military Discharge Certificate issued by the Defence authorities. The Government of India has informed that it is entirely for the respective civil pension sanctioning authorities to take a decision with regard to counting or otherwise of former War/Military Service on the basis of Discharge Certificate in accordance with the pension rules applicable to them. Since the State rule insists on the production of the Military Verification Certificate, War/Military Service in the absence of Military Verification Certificate cannot be counted towards civil pension.

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The Government of India, Ministry of Defence in their letter cited as first paper above has reported that the service records of retired War/Military personnel are destroyed after a specific retention period and the verification of War/Military Service becomes impossible in such cases and this leads to avoidable work involving repeated reference from the affected individuals besides official reference to and fro. All Heads of Departments are therefore requested to take prompt action to obtain the required Certificated of Verification of War/Military Service from the Military authorities concerned with six months from the date of exercising of option by the affected individuals for counting of their former War/Military Service towards civil pension, or within six months of such individuals becoming eligible for counting their former War/Military Service towards civil pension, whichever is earlier.

K.J.Thomas, *Deputy Secretary*.

To

The Accountant General, Kerala, Trivandrum. All Heads of Departments etc., etc.