



11 February 2010: No 02/10

MILITARY PENSIONS

Military Pensions are governed by the Military Pension act, 1976 (Act 84 of 1976), and are administered by the National Treasury. A number of Acts were promulgated for almost a century, prescribing conditions of payment. Military Pensions provide for the payment of pensions and gratuities to, eligible persons suffering from a disablement caused or aggravated by military service. This includes medical treatment for persons suffering from conditions such as post-traumatic stress.

During 1998 the Special Pension Amendment Act made it possible for members from former Non-Statutory and Statutory Forces to apply for military pensions with the aim to receive compensation for injuries sustained during the struggle before 2 February 1990.

In considering an application for pension or gratuity or reviewing a pension, the degree of the

pensionable disability of a member will be determined.

This process requires consultation with pension medical officer, who will compare the member's physical and mental condition with that of a normal and healthy person of the same age and sex. The latter will determine as nearly as possible, the percentage by which a person's physical and mental condition differs in relation to that of a healthy normal being as a result of disability.

The Department of Defence, Directorate Military Veterans Affairs (DMVA) is working jointly with the National Treasury to refine the process and decentralise it to provincial level to ensure broader accessibility and convenience to eligible candidates.

National Treasury has indicated that they already have 12 outlets across the country. Once the process is decentralised, National

Treasury will then indicate when and how these outlets will be functional.

The process has been put on hold at present to allow the National Treasury and the Department of Defence to finalise the administrative process to ensure better management. The way forward will be communicated in the near future.

Enquiries can be directed to Director Military Veterans Affairs, Brig Gen P. Mosianedi at (012) 339 -5440 \ 5280.