

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 151
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02nd February, 2024

UTILIZATION OF LAND ALLOTTED FOR NIRDESH PROJECT AT CALICUT

151. SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any plan to utilise the land allotted for NIRDESH project at Calicut, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to transfer NIRDESH land to the State Government, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has received representations from ex-servicemen regarding anomalies in One Rank One Pension (OROP) and if so, the details of the steps taken by the Government to resolve the same;
- (d) whether the Government has noticed that major private hospitals are withdrawing from ECHS stating pending arrears and out dated charge structure causing much difficulty to patriotic defence personnel and their families; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government to resolve the issue?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(SHRI AJAY BHATT)

(a) & (b): NIRDESH has entered into a concessionaire agreement with M/s Additional Skill Acquisition Program (ASAP), a Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) of Government of Kerala, for setting up a Skill park on NIRDESH land, for imparting vocational training to aspirants in Shipbuilding trades. The construction of the facility is underway and likely to be setup by mid-2024. There is no plan to transfer NIRDESH land to the State Government.

(c): Yes, Sir. All efforts have been made to resolve the grievances. It is mentioned here that the Ministry of Defence orders on OROP dated 07.11.2015 were challenged before the Hon'ble Supreme Court through a Writ Petition (Civil) No. 419/2016. Hon'ble Supreme Court vide order dated 16.3.2022 has upheld the OROP principle as defined in the OROP orders dated 07.11.2015. Hence, there is no constitutional infirmity or infringement of natural justice with

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Government orders. In 2015, the Government appointed a One Member Judicial Committee (OMJC) headed by Justice L. Narsimha Reddy, retired Chief Justice of Patna High Court, to look into the anomalies, if any, arising out of implementation of OROP. The Committee submitted its report on 26.10.2016. An Internal Committee has examined the recommendations of OMJC with respect to feasibility and financial aspects. The report of the Internal Committee is under examination.

(d) & (e): No major private hospitals have withdrawn from ECHS recently. Availability of funds has been ensured during the current Financial Year to avoid any delay in payments. A total of Rs. 7500 Cr. has been released as Medical Treatment Related Expenditure (MTRE) for payment of bills of hospitals and individual reimbursement.
