

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:266
ANSWERED ON:10.02.2014
ONE RANK ONE PENSION SCHEME
Ananth Kumar Shri ;Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any anomaly in the pension being given to the various categories of ex-servicemen in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated 'One Rank One Pension Scheme' to remove the anomaly in the pensions of the ex-servicemen;
- (d) if so, the details thereof including the number of ex-servicemen benefited by the said scheme; and
- (e) the mechanism put in place by the Government to address the demands of ex-servicemen and to resolve their grievances expeditiously?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 266 FOR ANSWER ON 10.02.2014

(a) & (b): After the implementation of the recommendations of 6th Central Pay Commission, some anomalies in pension of ex-servicemen were identified broadly in the areas of Classification Allowance (CA), Disability / War Injury Pension, commutation of additional amount of pension etc. These anomalies were considered by the Anomaly Committee constituted by the Ministry of Defence.

(c) & (d): Keeping in mind the spirit of the demand of the ex-servicemen, a Committee was set up under the chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary in 2009. Recommendations made by it were implemented by the Government at an outgo of Rs. 2200 crore per annum benefitting 12 lakh pensioners. Recently Government constituted another Committee headed by Cabinet Secretary in July, 2012 to look into Pay and Pension related issues of Armed Forces personnel & Ex-servicemen. Recommendations of the Committee, including the one relating to bridging the gap in pension of armed forces pensioners have been implemented at an annual cost of nearly Rs.1700 crores and has benefited around 12 lakh pensioners. This has narrowed the gap in pension of pre-2006 and post-2006 pensioners to a large extent. Pension reform is a continuous process.

(e): There is a Pension Grievance Cell in the Department of Ex-servicemen Welfare which deals with grievances of the ex-servicemen. Similar Grievance redressal cell exists in the office of respective Pension Sanctioning Authorities (PSAs). Controller General of Defence Accounts (CGDA) organizes 6 Defence Pension Adalats in a year across the country and local Army Commands organize Army Melas. The other two services also have similar arrangements to address the grievances of the ex-servicemen.