

Rank One Pension' (OROP) afresh. Since the issue of One Rank One Pension was not accepted in the past and also, more recently the Cabinet Secretary's Committee set up on OROP and other related issues did not recommend the same, it has not been found feasible to accept the demand of One Rank One Pension.

Fishermen rescued by Coast Guard

1571. SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Coast Guard provides any assistance to the Indian fishermen at sea fishing near the international border of the sea particularly when they are in distress;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of Tamil Nadu fishermen who were extended such assistance by the Coast Guard during the last three years, year-wise; and

(d) the number of Tamil Nadu fishermen rescued by the Coast Guard from the forces of neighbouring countries during the same period, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (d) Indian Coast Guard provides various assistance to the Indian fishermen. The details include rendering assistance while they are in distress in sea, preventing fishermen from crossing the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL) and undertaking 'Community Interaction Programme' etc. During the last three years Indian Coast Guard launched 13 Maritime Search and Rescue missions at sea for Tamil Nadu fishermen and saved 18 lives. The Indian Coast Guard rescued one Indian Fishing Boat while fishing close to IMBL and advised four Indian Boats fishing near IMBL to return to Indian waters during the last three years.

Delay in joint defence projects with Russia

1572. SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that joint defence projects with Russia, including the Admiral Gorshkov aircraft carrier is being delayed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Ministry is insisting on Russia to supply sophisticated and modern weapons system; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Russia?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (d) The induction of aircraft carrier — Gorshkov/Vikramaditya has been delayed due to requirement of additional works and change in the scope of trials. The additional works will increase the service life of the

aircraft carrier significantly. The delivery of the aircraft carrier has been rescheduled for December, 2012.

The procurement of modern weapon system is undertaken as per the approved requirements of the Armed forces in terms of capabilities sought and time frame prescribed, from various indigenous as well as foreign sources, including Russia, in accordance with the Defence Procurement Procedure.

Blacklisted firms entering into agreement with DRDO

1573. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some blacklisted firms have entered into an agreement with Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has conducted an enquiry in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action taken against the officers found guilty in their conduct?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): No, Sir. Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has not entered into any agreement with any banned/blacklisted firm of Ministry of Defence as submitted in 2006.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

Action against guilty in housing society scam in Mumbai

1574. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of a housing society scam in Mumbai coast involving top retired defence officers;
- (b) what is the nature of the land in which the building is built; and
- (c) what are the measures Government is taking to book the guilty in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) Adarsh Cooperative Housing Society (ACHS) has constructed a multi-storeyed building on a land measuring approximately 3837.57 sq. metres at Block VI, Colaba, Mumbai. As per available information, ACHS has 102 allottees, which include 37 Service officers. ACHS had sought allotment of land from Government of Maharashtra. Prime facie there have been irregularities and some issues of concern in this regard which include issue of 'NOC' by the Army to *inter alia* alienate the land in its possession in favour of ACHS.