

(d) the details of allocation provided to municipalities in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c) Urban Development and Municipal Administration being State subject, it is upto the respective State Governments to deal with Municipalities and Housing Assistance Councils and issues like regularization of BPL cards in cities.

(d) Under the Basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP) and Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP) components of Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) aimed at providing basic amenities viz. water, sanitation, primary health, primary education and social security, with decent shelter and security of tenure to the urban poor, Additional Central Assistance has been sanctioned to the State of Orissa so far as follows:

(Rs. in Crore)

	BSUP	HSDP
Total Project Cost Approved	74.62	284.67
Total Additional Central Assistance approved	54.18	191.88
Total Additional Central Assistance released	13.54	92.90

Under the Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), aimed at provision of gainful employment to the urban poor by assisting them to set up individual/group enterprises and through skill training as well as utilising their labour for the construction of socially useful public assets, Rs. 16.51 crore has been released to State of Orissa during the year 2010-2011.

Amendment of the Apprenticeship Act

*297. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's efforts to amend the Apprenticeship Act have got stalled over the issue of job reservation clause which recommends 50 per cent job reservation for apprentices trained by them;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Human Resource Development, which is incharge of training technical graduate apprentices, are also against job reservation under the new law; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to resolve the difference in this issue?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) to (d) The Government is considering to amend the Apprentices Act, 1961 in consultation with all concerned Ministries. One of the amendments proposed relates to reserving 50 per cent of direct recruitment posts for trained Trade, Graduate, Technician and Technician (Vocational) apprentices who have been trained under the Apprentices Act, 1961 in the same establishment. Based on the views of the concerned ministries the proposal of amendment of the Apprentices Act will be processed further.

Disparity in pension among ex-servicemen

*298. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether after implementation of One Rank One Pension in Armed Forces, there is disparity in pension among ex-servicemen, who retired before 1 January, 2006 and after;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action proposed to be taken to remove such disparity;

(d) whether Government proposes to reduce minimum service required for pension in Armed Forces from 15 years to 10 years, as in the case of Civil Services, if so, details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) One Rank One Pension (OROP) has not been implemented. Hence the question of disparity in that context does not arise.

(b) and (c) A Committee was set up under the Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary to look into the issue of 'OROP and other related matters'.

After considering all aspects of the matter, the Committee did not find it administratively feasible to recommend One Rank One Pension. However, keeping in mind the spirit of the demand, several other recommendations to substantially improve pensionary benefits of Personnel Below