THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR): (a) and (b) Military Nursing Service is a part of Armed Forces Medical Services as an auxiliary service which is governed by Military Nursing Service Rules, 1944 framed under (The Indian) Military Nursing Service Ordinance, 1943. Therefore, all the provisions of the Army Act are not applicable to MNS.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) There is disparity in applicability of the Army Act between the officers of MNS and those of regular Army as these are two separate cadres. The disparity in applicability of the Army Act between officers of the above mentioned two different cadres stems from the difference in legal provisions governing them. However, it is ensured that all rules and regulations applicable to MNS are adhered to at all times.

Implementing of OROP scheme

2446. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any reservations about the contributions and the sacrifices made by our defence personnel, if so, what are those reservations;

(b) if not, why the One Rank One Pension (OROP) scheme has not been implemented by Government, despite its concurrent assurances and promises during the last General Elections; and

(c) by when the OROP scheme will be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The policy of 'One Rank One Pension' (OROP), for the Armed Forces has been adopted by the Government to address the pension disparities. The modalities for implementation were discussed with various stakeholders and are presently under consideration of the Government. It will be implemented once the modalities are approved by the Government.

Production of aircraft by TATA-Airbus consortium

2447. SHRI SALIM ANSARI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has favoured single vendor by clearing TATA-Airbus consortium of ₹ 11,930 crore for production of transport aircraft, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and