

Budget provision of OROP

724. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total budget provision under One Rank One Pension Scheme (OROP) under Defence Services; and

(b) when will the implementation of the One Rank One Pension Scheme under Defence Services start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): (a) An amount of ₹ 82,332.66 crore was provided in BE 2016-17 towards payment of Defence Pensions. This included an amount of ₹ 12,456 crore towards implementation of 'One Rank One Pension' Scheme.

(b) Implementation of 'One Rank One Pension' Scheme for the ex-Servicemen takes effect from 1.7.2014.

Release of BRGF for Bihar

†725. SHRIMATI MISHA BHARTI:

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite the recommendation of NITI Aayog the amount of ₹ 12 thousand crore to Bihar under Backward Region Grant Fund (BRGF) has been held up;

(b) if so, by when it would be released;

(c) the special arrangements made to compensate losses to the State of Bihar due to the recommendation of 14th Finance Commission keeping in view the fact that the State used to receive 10.9 per cent amount from 13th Finance Commission which has been reduced to 9.6 per cent; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): (a) and (b) Release of Central funds to the State under Special Plan of Bihar under Backward Region Grant Fund (BRGF) has not been held up. As against approved amount of ₹ 12,000 crore under this head, Central funds to the tune of ₹ 5,605.21 crore stand released to the State. Further releases to the State under this head shall be effected taking into account recommendation of NITI Aayog and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

availability of resources with the Union Government within Gross Budgetary Support (GBS).

(c) and (d) Despite reduction in inter-se share of Bihar from 10.917% during 13th Finance Commission (13th FC) to 9.665% during 14th Finance Commission (14th FC) for shareable pool of Union Taxes and Duties, no loss has been noticed on account of devolution of Central Taxes and Duties to the State. The receipt of the State under this head has increased by 32% in the year 2015-16 (₹ 48,923 crore) as compared to 2014-15 (₹ 36,963 crore). As per the projection made by 14th FC, transfers to the State towards devolution of Central taxes and duties is expected to increase by 146% during 2015-20 (₹ 3,82,529 crore) over the actual devolution to the State during award of 13th FC (₹ 1,55,606 crore).

Inclusion of medication costs in health insurance schemes

726. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that health insurance schemes in India do not cover medication costs;

(b) whether it is a fact that many Government health insurance schemes, available for people, mostly cover hospital charges and do not provide for long term prescription coverage;

(c) whether it is a fact that as a result, 70 per cent of out of pocket health expenditures in India are for purchasing drugs; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to include medication cost in health insurance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (d) As per the information furnished by Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI), Insurance products generally cover hospitalization expenses including expenses on medicines and drugs during hospitalization in accordance with the terms and conditions of the respective products. Further, where product features allow coverage of pre-hospitalization and post-hospitalization expenses, medication costs are generally allowed under these benefits upto a specified period as per the policy terms and conditions. Few products also offer coverage of out-patient expenses on medicines as per the policy terms and conditions.

Government Health Insurance Scheme, Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) provides hospitalization expenses including medication costs. Medication cost is covered under RSBY for patients/beneficiaries covered under the scheme during hospitalization period and for up to 5 days post hospitalization. Further, under RSBY, some State