

on duty in the specified high altitude, inaccessible border posts, etc. on account of natural disasters, extreme weather conditions. In addition, other benefits such as liberalised family pension, death-cum-retirement-gratuity, etc. are granted as per extant rules.

Suicides over OROP

†1471. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the dates on which Ex-servicemen organised protest and agitation in New Delhi for keeping their demand of OROP and how many of them committed suicide during these protests and the details thereof;

(b) whether the Ex-serviceman who committed suicide in Delhi was eligible for OROP and he was not getting pension under OROP and the details thereof along with reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government is contemplating to give martyr status to those Ex-servicemen who committed suicide, if not, the reasons therefor along with details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) United Front Movement of Ex-servicemen is continuing their protest action in New Delhi since 14th June, 2015 for their demands on OROP. No incident of suicide by any member of this organization has come to notice so far.

(b) Ex-Subedar Ram Kishan Grewal had committed suicide at Delhi on 01.11.2016. On enquiry regarding payment of the benefits of OROP to him, the pension disbursing bank has informed that he was drawing pension @ ₹22,608 p.m. He was entitled for revised pension under OROP @ ₹ 25,634 p.m. The total amount of arrears of ₹ 53978/- on account of implementation of OROP has been credited to Bank Account of Late Ex-Subedar Ram Kishan Grewal on 08.11.2016.

(c) There is no such policy of Government of India.

Billing private organisations for services extended by Army

1472. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any procedure to define how private organisations can be billed for services extended by the Army and if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if not, the steps taken by Government to ensure that Army does not spend from its own pocket for the services extended to private organisations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) and (b) Army assistance is provided to private organizations for making of films, TV serials, documentaries etc. as per standardized rates based on the number and nature of Army assets deployed for the same.

Requisition for Predator Guardian drones

1473. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has requested for 22 unarmed high-tech multi-mission Predator Guardian drones for maritime surveillance of the Indian ocean, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) what is the response of Government of USA in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Manufacturing of fighter aircrafts in India

1474. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received proposal from U.S. aviation giants, Boeing and Lockheed Martin, to manufacture fighter aircrafts in India and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the proposal includes the transfer of technology and licenses and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how much investment is likely to come for this project and by when the production centre is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR): (a) Boeing and Lockheed Martin have expressed their interest to set up manufacturing facilities for Fighter Aircrafts in India under 'Make in India' initiative. However, no specific and detailed proposals have been received.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.