

(c) the quantum of loss incurred on annual basis in view of the said gun factory remaining closed; and

(d) whether the loss having taken place could be compensated for and reasons for said closure and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Ordnance Factory Project Korwa (District Amethi) is being set up for manufacturing of Close Quarter Battle (CQB) Carbine for the Indian Armed Forces. The CQB Carbine is envisaged to be manufactured under the Transfer of Technology (ToT) arrangement from the Original Equipment Manufacturer, whose weapon has been selected by the Indian Army. Since weapon to be manufactured has not been finalised, therefore the factory, at present, is engaged in the manufacturing of 12 Bore Pump Action Gun and other components for the small arms weapons.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Reduction in pension drawn by JWOs

4359. SHRI CHUNIBHAI KANJIBHAI GOHEL:

SHRI T. RATHINAVEL:

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH:

SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether pension to IAF veterans who retired prior to 2006 is being given as per last rank held by them irrespective of their length of service in that rank;

(b) whether after issuance of Circular No. 555 regarding OROP, pension drawn by some Junior Warrant Officers (JWOs) retired in 2003 had been reversed in rank of Sergeant resulting in reduction of pension; and

(c) if so, details thereof and steps being taken to remove such discrepancy, if any, and ensure that all such affected personnel are given pension as per their last rank held, as per Circular No.568 of PCDA / JCDA (AF), Subroto Park, New Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) No, Sir. Pension of pre-2006 retired Junior Commissioned Officers / Other Ranks (JCOs / ORs) have been assessed on the basis of rank continuously held for 10 months or more. However, protection of minimum of fitment table under 6th Pay Commission for the last rank held has been provided.

(b) and (c) A Junior Warrant Officer (JWO) who has not served for 10 months or more continuously in the rank is entitled to receive initial pension in the rank of Sergeant.

However, where the revised pension as on 01.07.2014 worked out in terms of OROP order, happens to be less than the existing pension as on 01.07.2014, the pension has not been revised to the disadvantage of the pensioner.

Further, the issue whether in the case of JCOs / ORs, the pension is to be paid on the basis of the last rank held instead of last rank pensioned under OROP was referred to the Judicial Committee on OROP. The Committee has submitted its report to the Ministry which is under examination.

New organisation for undertaking defence procurement

4360. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an expert committee established by Government has recommended the creation of a new, independent organisation outside the Ministry of Defence to undertake defence procurement;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon, if any; and

(c) what institutional measures have been taken to expedite the delay in procurement of defence equipment and modernization of defence forces?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) and (b) Ministry of Defence constituted a Committee in April, 2016 comprising experts from various fields to study the setting up of a Defence Procurement Organisation.

The Committee submitted its Report in February, 2017. The Committee has recommended the creation of a central, autonomous, empowered professional organization to build up indigenous defence capability as a strategic imperative for long term self-reliance.

(c) Several measures have been taken in this regard which include:—

(i) Reducing broad timeframe for completing procurement activities,

(ii) Reduction of validity for Acceptance of Necessity to 6 months for 'Buy' cases and to one year for 'Buy and Make (Indian) cases',