

## **RECOMMENDATION OF RAJYA SABHA COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS FOR GRANT OF ONE RANK ONE PENSION (OROP)**

1. A Committee was formed on a the petitions to Rajya Sabha, under the Chairmanship of Shri Bhagat Singh Koshyari, Rajya Sabha MP for considering grant of One Rank One Pension (OROP) to retired Armed Forces Personnel.
2. As per the information available, the committee submitted its report on 16 Dec 11 (Published on 19 Dec,2011). By and large the committee has recommended implementing OROP in Defence Forces across the board. The committee has also recommended a separate Pay Commission for defence personnel in future citing different terms & Conditions and nature of duties.
3. The Committee observed that One Rank One Pension was in vogue till 1973 when the Third Central Pay Commission took *ex-parte* decision against the One Rank One Pension formula. If this formula was working satisfactorily for more than 26 years after the country's Independence what was the harm in continuing this formula?
4. While the demand for OROP stands almost met in the case of PBOR, the officers' category remains much behind the target. Keeping in view the fact that Officers constitute a small proportion of the entire defence force and only a small proportion of the funds needed, i.e., 235 crores out of 1300 crores stand allocated to their share for implementing the demand in the officers' category, the Committee strongly recommends that this may be implemented so as to keep up the morale of the service. The fact that there are large numbers of vacancies in the defence services at the officer's level corroborates the requirement of suitable corrections in the officer's category and make their service conditions more acceptable and attractive.
5. The Committee felt that the decision of the Government to bring defence personnel on the pattern of the civilians with regard to their pay, pension, etc. (from Third Central Pay Commission onwards) was not a considered decision which caused hardship to the defence personnel and given birth to their demand for OROP. Before the Third Central Pay Commission, the defence personnel were getting their pay / pension on the basis of a separate criterion unconnected with the criteria devised for the civilian work force. That criterion acknowledged and covered the concept of OROP which has been given up after the Third Central Pay Commission.
6. The Committee strongly recommended that Government should implement OROP in the defence forces across the board at the earliest and further that for future, the pay, allowances, pension, family pension, etc. in respect of the defence personnel should be determined by a separate commission so that their peculiar terms and conditions of service, the nature of duties they are required to perform, etc., which are quite different from the civilian work force, are duly taken into account while taking decision on the same.

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