

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.560

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 6TH FEBRUARY, 2019

PAY FIXATION OF DEFENCE PERSONNEL

560. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE j{k k ea=h
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that there is disparity in fixing the pay of defence personnel;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken to resolve the same;
- (c) whether the Government has received representation from army officials to rectify the anomaly in the 7th Pay Commission and if so, the details of the action taken thereon;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to reduce the rank of military officials compared to the similarly ranked civil officer in civil service and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the parity and other service benefits of military personnel are decreasing compared with the similarly placed officers in the country and if so, the action taken to resolve the issue?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(DR. SUBHASH BHAMRE)

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(a) to (e): The 7th Central Pay Commission (CPC) recommended a separate Pay Matrix for Defence Forces and emphasized that the pay structure designed by it for the defence forces personnel was based on their unique rank structure and that it was not intended to determine the status of the personnel vis-à-vis their civil counterparts. Military Service

Pay (MSP) as a compensation for the various aspects unique to Defence Forces like serving in operational environments, training for war like situations with highly sophisticated war machinery etc and for the edge historically enjoyed by the Defence Forces over the civilian scales was allowed. In addition, entitlements to several allowances for the unique Risks and Hardships borne by them were permitted, such as Siachen Allowance, Para Allowances, Counter Insurgency Operations Allowance, Commando Allowance, Submarine related allowances etc. Other benefits allowed only for Defence Forces personnel include defined Benefit Pension Scheme, Free rations or Ration Money Allowance in lieu of free rations, tax concessions through Canteen Stores Depot and Concession vouchers for travel in Railways and by Air.

Whenever anomalies in the pay of defence personnel are brought to notice of the Government, the same are examined on a 'case to case' basis.

There is no proposal to reduce the rank of military officials compared to their civilian counterparts nor to decrease service benefits.
