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Par panel asks govt to implement 'one rank, one pension'

PTI

December 26, 2011 at 10:12 pm

New Delhi, Dec 26 (PTI) A Parliamentary Committee has asked the government to implement the long-pending demand of 'One Rank, One Pension' (OROP) by the retired armed forces personnel. "The Petitions Committee of Rajya Sabha submitted a report to Parliament recommending the government to implement OROP in defence forces and constitute a separate commission to determine the pay, allowance and pension of the defence personnel," said a release from Rajya Sabha MP Rajeev Chandrasekhar. Under the OROP, retired defence personnel are demanding that all ex-servicemen should get similar pension for putting in equal years of service and retiring at the same rank irrespective of their date of retirement. At present, the pension depends on the pay commission under which they have retired. The Petitions Committee was constituted following a petition co-filed by Chandrasekhar for grant of OROP to retired armed defence personnel and tabled its report in the Rajya Sabha on December 19. In its report, the Rajya Sabha Petitions Committee said the financial liability of Rs 1,300 crores is not very big amount to deny the parity in pension, the release said. The Committee rejected Finance Ministry's apprehension of that acceptance of the demand for equal pension to personnel of equal rank and equal length of service will trigger similar request from other government employees. The Committee pointed out that "terms and conditions of defence personnel and civil servants are vastly different and said the demand of armed forces personnel demand for OROP was unresolved due to bureaucratic apathy". The Rajya Sabha Committee on Petitions is headed by Bhagat Singh Koshyari (BJP).