

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Ttile: Regarding proper re-settlement of Armed Forces and to form a central level Authority for the veterans

**SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY (KENDRAPARA):** Sir, every time when we talk about our nation's security, protection or any big threat to our nation, the entire House and the entire nation speaks in one voice *i.e.*, Hind ki Sena or the Indian Army.

Sir, the Government's 2019 manifesto emphasized on re-settlement of our Armed Forces which will focus on skill development and transition to civil jobs post-retirement. The jawans of Armed Forces often retire early when they are in the prime of their lives. In reality, very little work has been done by the Central Government for their welfare in terms of re-settlement.

The Government also promised to appoint a Veteran Commission to address the grievances of our veterans but the National Commission for Ex-Servicemen Bill, 2015, is still pending and no action has been taken since then.

The Government should also increase allocation of funds in the Union Budget for skill development initiatives in the Indian Armed Forces. There are a few institutions which seek to provide management courses to a small portion of veterans, however it is restricted only to the higher rank officers. The welfare schemes for lower rank officers in the Armed Forces are restricted to poor level jobs like taking care of milk booths or Saffola outlets which provide no financial stability. The implementation and regulation of the already existing welfare schemes is poorly managed and regulated. I would like to request the Government to form a National level data base which records the number of retired army personnel who have successfully re-settled to civil jobs after retirement. I would like to urge

the Government to look into this issue of the resettlement of Armed Forces and to form a Central-level Authority for the veterans to look after it.

Thank you.