

'हर काम देश के नाम'

New Delhi, Agrahayana 17, 1945 Friday, December 08, 2023

PENSION SCHEME FOR TEACHERS OF SAINIK SCHOOLS

As per the scheme regarding sharing of responsibilities between Sainik School Society and State Governments, the responsibility to incur expenditure towards pension/terminal benefits rests with the State Government concerned. However, the expenditure towards additionality in pension on account of difference between 5th to 7th CPC recommendations is incurred by the Sainik School Society on a regular basis.

Some instances have come to notice regarding delay in payment of pension/terminal benefits to retired employees of Sainik Schools due to delay in release of funds by concerned State Government. In order to ensure timely release of Funds, Ministry of Defence has initiated the process of signing of Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with the State Governments by clearly specifying the aforesaid responsibility of State Government. In this regard, MoAs have already been executed in respect of 24 Sainik Schools out of 33. Also, in cases of exigency, the Sainik Schools may utilise reserve fund, with prior approval of Sainik Schools Society, for payment of pension subject to recoupment on receipt of funds from State Government.

This information was given by Raksha Rajya Mantri Shri Ajay Bhatt in a written reply to Shri S Muniswamy in Lok Sabha today.



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WIDOWS OF EX-SERVICEMEN

State-wise data of Widows of Ex-servicemen in the country is given below:

S No	State/UT	No of Widows Registered			
		Army	Navy	Air Force	Total
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	23,587	877	1,388	25,852
2	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	226	0	0	226
3	ASSAM	8,543	66	557	9,166
4	BIHAR	10,469	541	778	11,788
5	CHHATTISGARH	1,433	35	75	1,543
6	DELHI	10,362	1,262	2,405	14,029
7	GOA	267	156	54	477
8	GUJARAT	4,376	90	583	5,049
9	HARYANA	47,224	3,620	2,702	53,546
10	HIMACHAL PRADESH	38,490	508	369	39,367
11	JAMMU & KASHMIR	21,638	53	199	21,890
12	JHARKHAND	4,364	227	210	4,801
13	KARNATAKA	26,526	716	2,498	29,740
14	KERALA	58,617	2,843	8,047	69,507
15	MADHYA PRADESH	11,244	238	428	11,910
16	MAHARASHTRA	60,994	1,559	2447	65,000
17	MANIPUR	2,077	26	10	2,113
18	MEGHALAYA	1,361	34	45	1,440
19	MIZORAM	2,658	16	25	2,699
20	NAGALAND	937	0	2	939
21	ODISHA	4,036	156	317	4,509
22	PUNJAB	60,261	4,236	9,756	74,253
23	RAJASTHAN	43,394	498	773	44,665
24	SIKKIM	412	3	1	416

25	TAMIL NADU	54,520	1,012	3,332	58,864
26	TRIPURA	660	18	27	705
27	TELANAGANA	5,710	207	1,155	7,072
28	UTTARAKHAND	48087	397	440	48,924
29	UTTAR PRADESH	59,053	4,634	5,128	68,815
30	WEST BENGAL	12052	617	1,710	14,379
31	ANDAMAN & NICOBAR	171	17	4	192
32	CHANDIGARH	1870	84	686	2,640
33	PUDUCHERRY	740	24	79	843
34	LADAKH	889	0	4	893
	Total	6,27,248	24,770	46,234	6,98,252

The widows of ex-servicemen are entitled for family pension which is revised under OROP after every five years. The family pension is also linked with dearness relief which is revised after every six months.

Government reviews the various welfare measures extended to war widows/families in Armed Forces time to time. A list of welfare measures which has been revised recently is as under:

S No	Scheme	Previous Amount	Last Revised Amount	Date of last revision
1	Ex-gratia causality (Fatal) provided via Armed Forces Battle Causalities Welfare Fund			
	a) Fatalb) Disability 60% and above	Rs 2 lakh Rs 2 lakh	Rs 8 lakh Rs 8 lakh	May 06, 2020.
	c) Invalidated out due to disability	Rs 2 lakh	Rs 8 lakh	
	d) Disability less than 60%	Rs 1 lakh	Rs 4 lakh	
2	100% Disable Children Grant	Rs 1,000/- per month	Rs 3,000/- per month	July 09, 2021
3	Orphan Grant	Rs 1,000/- per month	Rs 3,000/- per month	July 29, 2022
4	Medical Grant	Rs 30,000/- per annum	Rs 50,000/- per annum	August 11, 2023
5	Serious Disease Grant	Rs 1,25,000/- per annum	Rs 1,50,000/- per annum	
6	Vocational training grant	Rs 20,000/- One time	Rs 50,000/- One time	
7	Cost of books/stationery	Rs 1,000/-	Rs 2,000/-	These

		per annum	per annum	allowances are
		per student	per student	revised in each
8	Cost of uniform	Rs 1,700/-	Rs 2,000/-	Pay Commission
		(during first	per annum	and the last
		year and	per student	revision came in
		Rs 700 for	-	force w.e.f
		subsequent		July 01, 2017.
		years)		These
9	Clothing	Rs 500/-	Rs 700/- per	allowances shall
		(during first	annum	go up by 25%
		year and		each time DA
		Rs 300 for		rise by 50%.
		subsequent		
		years)		

War widows/families are provided employment through schemes of employment through compassionate appointment. Guidelines for compassionate appointment have been issued by DoP&T. Under the scheme, wards/dependents of war widows/martyr are also considered alongwith others as per extant rules. Compassionate appointments have been granted to 32 widows/family members of deceased defence personnel during the year 2022.

This information was given by Raksha Rajya Mantri Shri Ajay Bhatt in a written reply to Shri Sunil Dattatray Tatkare in Lok Sabha today.



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TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT FUND

The Technology Development Fund (TDF) scheme is a flagship programme of Ministry of Defence executed by DRDO under 'Make in India' initiative. The main objectives of the scheme are enumerated below:

- To provide Grant in Aid to Indian industries, including MSMEs and Start-ups, as well as academic and scientific institutions for the development of Defence and dual use technologies that are currently not available with the Indian defence Industry.
- To engage with the private industries especially MSMEs and Start-ups to bring in the culture of Design & Development of Military Technology and support them with Grant in Aid.
- To focus on Research, Design & Development of Niche technologies which are being developed for the first time in the country.
- To create a bridge amongst the Armed Forces, research organizations, academia and qualifying/certifying agencies with private sector entities.
- To support the futuristic technologies having a Proof of Concept and converting them into prototype.

The benefits sought to be gained by the scheme are as follows:

- Capacity and capability building of Indian industries for design and development of defence technologies in the country.
- Creation of an ecosystem of R&D where industry and Academia work together to meet the current and futuristic requirement of Armed Forces and defence sector.
- Building of Defence manufacturing ecosystem in country.
- Achieving 'Aatmanirbharta' in defence technology.

Till date, a total of 70 projects at total cost of Rs 291.25 crore have been sanctioned to various industries and 16 defence technologies have been successfully developed/realised under the scheme.

This information was given by Raksha Rajya Mantri Shri Ajay Bhatt in a written reply to Shri Tapir Gao in Lok Sabha today.



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NON-LAPSABLE FUND FOR DEFENCE MODERNISATION

Articles 112-114 & 266 of the Constitution provide that no money can be spent by the Government from Consolidated Fund of India without authorisation through an Annual Budget presented before the Parliament. Since authorisation under the Appropriation Act is meant for that particular financial year, the same does not allow operationalization of a Public Fund which is non-lapsable in nature. In this regard, separate mechanism is being worked out by Ministry of Finance in consultation with MoD, to explore a special dispensation to MoD to operationalize a Non-lapsable Defence Modernisation Fund.

Defence Expenditure is the largest expenditure amongst the Central Ministries. Defence expenditure as a definite percentage of total Government Expenditure/GDP cannot be ensured considering the fact that the resource allocations are made among various competing priorities on need basis. The budgetary allocations are optimally utilized and if required, additional funds are sought at Supplementary/RE stage to ensure that urgent & critical capabilities are acquired without any compromise to operational preparedness of Defence Services.

This information was given by Raksha Rajya Mantri Shri Ajay Bhatt in a written reply to Dr Amar Singh in Lok Sabha today.