

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:176  
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2000  
PLIGHT OF INDIAN SOLDIERS IN SIERRA LEONE  
A. KRISHNASWAMY;RAMDAS ATHAWALE

**Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) the total number of Indian soldiers detained, killed, wounded by the rebel Revolutionary United Front (RUF) in Sierra Leone and the number of those who have since come back;
- (b) whether any compensation to the families of killed/wounded soldiers have been given;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (d): A Statement is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 176 FOR 3.8.2000

Twenty one Indian soldiers had been detained by the RUF. All of them were released on 29th June, 2000. None of them was wounded. 222 personnel of the Indian contingent in UNAMSIL as well as some personnel from other countries who had been under siege by the RUF in Kailahun were evacuated in a multinational operation on 15/16 July, 2000. During the break out operations, ten Indian soldiers suffered injuries of various degrees, of whom one soldier, who was wounded in a grenade attack, succumbed to injuries on 17th July, 2000, despite emergency surgery.

A claim has been filed with the U.N. authorities for compensation in respect of the deceased soldier. The compensation payable on death is U.S. dollars 50,000/-. Apart from this compensation, the family of the deceased soldier is entitled to ordinary family pension as per the regulations of the Government of India. As regards the compensation for the injured soldiers, the process for claims has been initiated with the U.N. authorities.