

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4995

ANSWERED ON:10.05.2007

UNIFORM WELFARE PACKAGE FOR BATTLE CASUALTIES

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Annayagari Shri Sai Prathap;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

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

- (a) the details of facilities/assistance and compensation being paid in case of death of defence personnel in different circumstances;
- (b) the details of welfare package given to the next of kin of soldiers killed and wounded during the Kargil conflict as well as to the next of kin of the soldiers killed and wounded while fighting intruders/terrorists;
- (c) whether the Indian Army has sought a "uniform welfare package" from the Government for "all battle casualties" on a par with the "much higher amounts given to the next of kin of the soldiers killed and wounded during the Kargil Conflict" as reported in "The Times of India" dated April 24, 2007;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Union Government thereto;
- (e) the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred in the said package; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU)

(a) As per annexure attached.

(b) The families of Armed Forces Personnel killed by terrorists are given similar benefits as admissible to the families of personnel killed in war or warlike situation except in respect of ex-gratia compensation. Families of personnel killed in war/war like engagements are paid an ex-gratia of Rs.10 lakhs and of those killed by the terrorists or in action against terrorists, etc. are paid ex-gratia of Rs.7.5 lakhs.

The disabled boarded out soldiers during the Kargil conflict are given the following packages.

(i) Dwelling Unit	Rs.5.00 Lac
(ii) Parents Assistance	Rs.2.00 lac
(iii) Children Education Assistance	Rs.2.00 lac

@ Rs.1.00 lac/child for max 2 children

The disabled boarded out soldiers of other operations get only Rs.1 lac from Army Central Welfare Fund. The wards of soldiers get complete re-imbursement of tuition fee, hostel charges, cost of books upto Rs.250/- cost of uniforms upto Rs.810/- during first year and Rs.350/- subsequently and cost of clothing @ Rs.250/- for the first year and Rs.150/- for subsequent years.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) to (f): They have asked for removal of disparity in compensation package paid to Next of Kin (NOK) of Operation VIJAY (KARGIL) and other ongoing operations. An estimated expenditure of Rs.622.77 crores is likely to be incurred in the said package. The proposal regarding grant of uniform ex-gratia of Rs.10 lakhs to the NOKs of deceased defence personnel in war/war like engagements and counter insurgency operations is under consideration in consultation with Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Home Affairs and Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN THE REPLY GIVEN IN PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4995 FOR ANSWER ON 10.5.2007

The details of facilities/assistance and compensation being provided to the Next of Kin in case of death of defence personnel in different circumstances are as under :-

1. For death under normal circumstances/due to natural causes :-

Family Pension: Ordinary Family Pension @ 50% of last pay drawn for 7 years and thereafter 30% of the last pay drawn for life/upto remarriage.

Death-Cum-Retirement Gratuity (DCRG):

Length of Service	Amount
(i) Less than 1 year	2 times pay
(ii) 1 to 5 years	6 times pay
(iii) 5 to 20 years	20 times pay
(iv) More than 20 years	One month's pay for every completed year subject to maximum of 33 years or Rs.3.5 lakhs whichever is less

Army Group Insurance Fund (AGIF): Rs.15 lakh to Next of Kin of officers and Rs.7.5 lakhs for Next of Kin of Personnel Below Officer Rank.

Defence Service Officers provident Fund (DSOP): Accumulated Fund in deceased's account

2. For death due to causes attributable/aggravated to Military service.

Family Pension Special Family Pension @ 60% of the last reckonable emoluments drawn by the deceased.

Ex-gratia Rs.5 lakhs if death occurs due to accident in course of performing Bonafide duty.

Other benefits like DCRG, AGIF, DSOP remain same as above.

3. For death in war, war like operations, border skirmishes and during action against terrorists.

Family Pension: Liberalised Family Pension equal to the reckonable emoluments last drawn by the deceased.

Ex-gratia:

(i) Rs.7.50 lakhs for death during border skirmishes, action against terrorists/militants.

(ii) Rs.10 lakhs for death during enemy action in international war, war like engagements which are specifically notified by Ministry of Defence.

Other benefits like DCRG, AGIF, DSOP remain same as above.

4. A comprehensive package from National Defence Fund (NDF) is paid to Next of Kin of all Battle Casualties of Operation Vijay (Kargil) only. Details are as given under :-

Fatal Casualties	
(a) Ex-gratia (Central Govt)	- Rs. 10.00 lac
(b) Dwelling Unit (DU) (NDF)	- Rs. 5.00 lac

(c) Parent Assistance (NDF) - Rs. 2.00 lac

(d) Children Education Assistance (NDF) - Rs. 2.00 lac @ 1 lac per child for maximum 2 children

Total - Rs. 19.00 lac

Besides above, the broad facilities being provided to ex-servicemen include education concessions, admission in professional colleges, preferential allotment of seats in IITs, reservation in Sainik and Military schools, accommodation in War Memorial Hostels, Rail/Air travel concessions, Canteen Store facilities, transit facilities etc.