

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1122

ANSWERED ON:24.10.2008

DISBURSEMENT OF PENSION TO DISABLED PENSIONERS IN HILLY RURAL AREAS

Sai Shri Nand Kumar

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pension to Central Government employees in different parts of the country is being disbursed through banks, Treasury and Post offices;

(b) if so, whether old disabled pensioners particularly from the hilly, rural and inaccessible areas having no cheque facility are required to travel a long distance to withdraw their pensions causing them great inconvenience;

(c) if so, whether the Government proposes to provide facility of disbursement of pension to such disabled/old persons at their residence by relaxing rules; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL)

(a) to (d): Yes Sir, the pension to the Central Government Pensioners is disbursed through authorized banks all over India under the `Scheme for payment of pensions to Central Civil Government and other non-civil Ministries/Departments i.e. Defence, Railways and Telecom`. Department of Post manages their pension related work departmentally.

In terms of para 18.2 of the `Scheme for Payment of Pension to the Central Government Civil Pensioners through Authorized Banks` a pensioner who is old, sick, incapacitated and handicapped, too ill to sign and is unable to be physically present in the bank, can withdraw money from his account in the following manner:

(i) Pensioner who is too ill to sign a cheque and Cannot be physically present in the bank to withdraw money from his account, but can put his thumb/toe impression on the cheque/withdrawal form: In this case, the thumb or toe impression, should be identified by two independent witnesses known to the bank, one of whom should be responsible bank official.

(ii) Pensioner who is not only unable to be physically present in the bank, but is also not even able to put his thumb/toe impression on the cheque/withdrawal form due to certain physical defect/incapacity: In this case a mark can be obtained on the cheque/withdrawal form in the same manner as described in the opening of the accounts. That mark should be identified by two independent witnesses one of whom should be a responsible bank official.

(iii) The pensioner might also be asked to indicate to the bank as to who would withdraw pension amount from the bank on the basis of cheque/withdrawal form as obtained above and that person should be identified by two independent witnesses. The person who is actually drawing money from the bank should be asked to furnish his signatures to the bank.