

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3047
ANSWERED ON:22.03.2005
PENSION TO PUNNAPRA VAYALAR FREEDOM FIGHTERS
Manoj Dr. K.S.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of applications of the Punnapra Vayalar Freedom fighters pending before the Government for the award of Central Swatantra Sainik samman pension;
- (b) the reasons for pendency;
- (c) whether the Government is aware that it is difficult to get the details of their imprisonment in jail;
- (d) if so, whether the Government is considering to issue any other document in this regard;
- (e) whether the Government considering to issue a testimony by a revenue officer (the Tehsildar/District Collector) as an evidence of imprisonment; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT)

(a)& (b): As per available records in this Ministry, about 1440 advance copies of applications were received, which were referred to the State Government for verification. So far, reports, complete in all respects, in about 75 cases have been received. About 49 cases have been accepted and about 26 cases have been rejected.

(c): In certain cases, non-availability of official records has been reported by the State Governments.

(d): Under the Swatantra Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980, imprisonment for a period of six months or more is one of the eligibility criteria for grant of Samman Pension. The requisite evidentiary requirements are:

(I) Primary evidence: Certificate from the concerned jail authority, District Magistrate or the State Government, indicating the period of sentence awarded, date of admission, date of release and reasons of release.

(II) Secondary evidence: In absence of such certificates from official records, the following secondary evidence can be furnished;

Non-availability of Records Certificate (NARC) from the concerned State Government/Union Territory Administration.

Two Co-prisoner Certificates (CPC) from freedom fighters who have a proven jail suffering of minimum one year. [In case the certifier happens to be a sitting MP/MLA or an Ex-MP/MLA, only one certificate is required].

Therefore, the Scheme already prescribes that in the absence of primary evidence (jail certificate, etc.) a Non-availability of Records Certificate alongwith Co-prisoner Certificates are acceptable.

(e): No Sir.

(f): Does not arise.