GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:393 ANSWERED ON:07.12.2010 FREEDOM FIGHTERS PENSION Jena Shri Mohan

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the freedom fighters who have participated in the 'Goa Liberation Movement' been awarded Central pension;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Union Government has received proposals from various States including Orissa to include more freedom fighters for grant of pension; and
- (d) if so, the follow up action taken thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN)

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

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO 393 FOR 07.12.2010.

(a) & (b): Goa Liberation Movement (GLM) was spread over three phases. Central pension was sanctioned to participants of phases I and III, who fulfilled the eligibility criteria of the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme and in whose cases the records of sufferings were available. However, as regards participants of Phase-II, based on representations, the Cabinet in its meeting held on 4.2.2003 decided to relax the eligibility criteria and grant Central pension to those participants, who had been sanctioned State pension till 1.8.2002. This decision is applicable to only six States namely Maharashtra, Goa, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. Prior to this decision, enquiries were made from different States requesting them to forward the names of participants of Goa Liberation Movement Phase -II to whom the States had granted State pension. However, information was received only from the above mentioned six States. The State-wise details of sanctioned cases of Goa Liberation Movement Phase-II as on 30.11.2010 is as under:

Sl.No. State (s) No. of Sanctioned cases

- 1. Maharashtra 1438
- 2. Goa 687
- 3. Madhya Pradesh+Chhattisgarh 86
- 4. Haryana, Uttar Pradesh & Rajasthan 34

(c) & (d): There have been demands from other states including Orissa for extending the relaxed eligibility criteria, as decided in February 2003 to the participants of these states as well. However, it has been decided not to reopen this decision in view of its wide financial repercussions.	