

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:462

ANSWERED ON:07.07.2009

FREEDOM FIGHTERS PENSION

Agarwal Shri Jai Prakash;Sampath Shri Anirudhan;Singh Shri Ganesh

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) the total number of freedom fighters, their widows and other eligible dependents who are receiving Freedom Fighters Pension in the country as on date, separately, Statewise;
- (b) the total number of applications for freedom fighters pension which are still pending with the Government for approval, State-wise;
- (c) the time by which such pending applications are likely to be cleared;
- (d) whether the Government has received complaints about fake freedom fighters getting pension;
- (e) if so, the total number of such complaints received, cases registered and action taken against the offenders, Statewise;
- (f) whether the Government has received report that some genuine freedom fighters are still deprived of pension and other benefits; and
- (g) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and remedial measures taken thereon?

**Answer**

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

(a): Since the inception of the Freedom fighters' Pension Scheme in 1972, pension has been sanctioned to approximately 1.70 lakh freedom fighters and their eligible dependents till 30.06.2009. State-wise break-up of freedom fighters/dependents who have been sanctioned pension is given in Annexure-I. Data relating to the exact number of freedom fighters and their eligible dependents presently living and drawing pension is not centrally maintained since disbursement of pension is decentralized through Banks/Treasuries.

(b) & (C): Receipt and disposal of applications for grant of freedom fighters' pension is a continuous process. No record of applications, which are received directly from the applicants or without verification reports of the State Governments, is maintained. However, 1198 applications (including 1032 from Government of Andhra Pradesh) have been received with verification reports from the State Governments. All efforts are being made to process these cases. However, no time frame can be indicated.

(d) & (e): Complaints containing allegation of bogus/fraudulent claims for freedom fighter's pension are received from time to time. All such complaints are examined with reference to the applicable provisions of pension scheme in consultation with the State Governments. In such cases where the allegations are sustained, the claims are rejected and if the pension has been sanctioned, the same is suspended/cancelled and recovery of pension ordered after following the prescribed procedure.

(f) & (g): No, Madam. Central Samman Pension is sanctioned only to those freedom fighters who fulfill the eligibility criteria and produce evidentiary requirements in support of their claims duly recommended by the State Governments/Union territories Administrations. All claims received are examined and accepted/rejected as appropriate in terms of the above-stated norms.