

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1739  
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2012  
FACILITIES TO FREEDOM FIGHTERS  
Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari

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

- (a) the criteria adopted by the Government to recognise a person as freedom fighter along with the details of the facilities provided by the Government to the freedom fighters and their dependent;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted any study to ensure that the facilities intended for freedom fighters and their dependents are accessible to them;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government has received complaints of denial of the said facilities to the freedom fighters and their dependents during each of the last three years and the current year, and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the action taken by the Government on such complaints?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R. P. N. SINGH)

(a): The eligibility criteria under the Central "Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980", inter-alia, includes imprisonment/underground suffering of at least six months (three months in case of women and SC/ST freedom fighters), internment in home/externment from districts for at least six months, confiscation of properties, permanent incapacitation; or loss of job, which a claimant should have undergone in connection with the national freedom struggle. Details of facilities provided by the Central Government to the freedom fighters are given as per the annexure.

(b) to (e): No such study has been conducted by the Government. However, as and when any such complaint of denial of facilities admissible to freedom fighters/their eligible dependent is received, the matter is immediately taken up with the concerned Ministry for redressal of the grievances.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1739 FOR 04.12.2012.

Facilities available to the freedom fighters:-

- (i) Free railway pass (AC II tier in Rajdhani, Chair Car (CC) in Shatabdi/Jan Shatabdi trains and 1st Class/2nd AC Sleeper in all other trains) for the freedom fighters and their widows along with a companion/attendant, for life.
  - (ii) Free medical facilities in all Central Government hospitals and in hospitals run by PSUs under the control of the Bureau of Public Enterprises. C.G.H.S. facilities have also been extended to the freedom fighters and their dependents.
  - (iii) Telephone connection, subject to feasibility, without installation charges, and on payment of only half the rental.
  - (iv) General Pool residential accommodation (within the overall 5% discretionary quota) to the freedom fighters living in Delhi. Widows of the concerned freedom fighters are permitted to retain the accommodation for a period of six months after death of the freedom fighters.
  - (v) Accommodation in the Freedom Fighters' Home set up at New Delhi for those freedom fighters who have no one to look after them.
  - (vi) Free air travel facility to ex-Andaman freedom fighters/their widows to visit Andaman and Nicobar Islands, once a year, along with a companion.
- All major facilities provided to the freedom fighters are also extended to their widows.