

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1831
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2009
PENSION TO FREEDOM FIGHTERS
Danve Shri Raosaheb Patil

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of freedom fighters who are receiving Freedom Fighters Pension in the country as on date, State-wise;
- (b) the total number of applications for freedom fighters pension which are still pending with the Government for approval, State-wise;
- (c) the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to provide pension to freedom fighters including the assistance provided to them to submit the necessary documents?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE 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 about 1.71 lakh freedom fighters and their eligible dependents till 31-10-2009. State-wise details are annexed. 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, 1614 applications (including 1508 relating to Hyderabad Liberation Movement and 95 relating to Goa Liberation Movement, Phase-II) have been received with verification reports from the State Governments and these are under process.

(d) The Freedom Fighters' Pension Scheme, 1972, renamed as Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980 is well advertised. The provisions of the Scheme have been liberalized from time to time to enable the freedom fighters to avail its benefits. The claims for grant of freedom fighters' pension, duly verified and recommended by the State Governments are processed expeditiously and decisions taken as appropriate in terms of the provisions of the Scheme.

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 1831 FOR 01-12-2009 REGARDING "PENSION TO FREEDOM FIGHTERS".

S. No. Name of State/ Union Territory Number of freedom fighters/their eligible dependents who have been sanctioned pension (as on 31.10.2009)

1. Andhra Pradesh 14,667

2. Arunachal Pradesh 0

3. Assam 4,438

4. Bihar 24,878

5. Jharkhand

6. Goa 1,498
7. Gujarat 3,598
8. Haryana 1,688
9. Himachal Pradesh 624
- 10 Jammu & Kashmir 1,807
11. Karnataka 10,090
12. Kerala 3,303
13. Madhya Pradesh 3,473
14. Chattisgarh
15. Maharashtra 17,907
16. Manipur 62
17. Meghalaya 86
18. Mizoram 04
19. Nagaland 03
20. Orissa 4,190
21. Punjab 7,020
22. Rajasthan 812
23. Sikkim 0
24. Tamil Nadu 4,110
25. Tripura 888
26. Uttar Pradesh 17,993

27. Uttarakhand

28. West Bengal 22,488

29. Andaman & Nicobar Islands 03

30. Chandigarh 91

31. Dadra & Nagar Haveli 83

32. Daman & Diu 33

33. Lakshadweep 0

34. NCT of Delhi 2,046

35. Pondicherry 317

Indian National Army (INA) 22,468

Total 1,70,668