

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:548  
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2013  
OF MARTYRS FAMILIES  
Choudhary Shri Bhudeo;Devi Aswamedh;Singh Smt. Meena

**Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether family members of martyrs face difficulties in getting the dues / assistance from the Government;
- (b) if so, the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to relax the army rules regarding seven years ceiling for providing relief to families of missing soldiers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to set up any monitoring cell for providing assistance to such families; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH) MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(a) & (b): Every effort is made to ensure timely payment of pensionary dues to the Next of Kin of martyrs. Pension Sanctioning Authorities promptly issue Pension Payment Order, for the families of Martyrs on receipt of claims, complete in all respects, from the Record Office concerned. In case of non availability / non receipt of documents or if enquiry is pending, the families of the martyrs receive "Pending Enquiry Award" payment on monthly basis as an interim measure, to meet expenses. Moreover, Standard Operating Procedure giving timeline for payment of pensionary benefits to Next of Kin of Battle and Peace casualties within 90 days and 180 days, respectively has also been prescribed.

(c) & (d): As per latest provisions vide Government letter No. 1(1)/2010-D(Pen/Pol), dated 15.2.2011, family pension and Death Cum Retirement Gratuity are to be sanctioned / granted to the Next of Kin of Government servant / pensioner reported missing and whose whereabouts are not known, after a period of six months from the date of registration of First Information Report with the police.

(e) & (f): In view of reply to parts (a) to (d), setting up of a monitoring cell does not appear necessary.