

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3949
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2015
WELFARE OF FAMILIES OF SOLDIERS
Sawaikar Shri Advocate Narendra Keshav

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether families of soldiers who were awarded gallantry awards posthumously are living in miserable conditions;
- (b) whether there is any mechanism to ensure welfare of such families;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the steps taken by the Government to take care of widows and dependent parents of those who laid down their lives for the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

(a) The families of soldiers awarded gallantry awards posthumously, have been adequately compensated and are taken care through various schemes of the Government. Timely payment of all dues / benefits to Next of Kin of all martyrs as sanctioned by the Government is ensured through a well established procedure / system. All assistance is provided to the widows as per Government orders / instruction.

(b) to (d): Kendriya Sainik Board Secretariat at the central level, Rajya Sainik Boards at the State level and Zila Sainik Boards at the District level are entrusted with welfare of Ex-Servicemen and their families including the families of defence personnel killed in military operations.

Regiments and local formations / establishments / units have systems in place to periodically interact formally / informally with the families of defence personnel killed during operations.