

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3721
ANSWERED ON:05.08.2014
FREEDOM FIGHTERS
Sawaikar Shri Advocate Narendra Keshav

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of freedom fighters from Goa who are receiving pension under the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980 along with the quantum of pension amount being paid per month to them;
- (b) the eligibility criteria adopted to get the benefits of the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension;
- (c) whether any request is pending with the Government for grant of pension to the Goa Freedom Fighters; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJUJU)

(a) The total number of freedom fighters who have been sanctioned Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension for their participation in the Goa Liberation Movement, as on 05/05/2014, are 2967.

The quantum of pension amount being paid per month is Rs. 18,547/- to the freedom fighters or their spouse and Rs.4395/- each for a maximum of three unmarried daughters.

(b) The eligibility criteria for sanctioning of the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension is as given in Annexure.

However, the Government relaxed the eligibility criteria under the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980 for grant of freedom fighters pension to those participants of Second Phase of Goa Liberation Movement (1954-55) who are in receipt of pension on that count from the State Government of Maharashtra, Goa, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Rajasthan, as on 1st August, 2002.

(c) & (d) No application, complete in all respects, received through the State Government, is pending as on date. Receipt and disposal of applications for grant of freedom fighters' pension is a continuous process.