

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2201

ANSWERED ON:10.03.2015

PENSION TO FREEDOM FIGHTERS

Chandrappa Shri B.N.;Sawaikar Shri Advocate Narendra Keshav

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of freedom fighters, their widows and the eligible dependents who are receiving pension under 'Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980' separately, State/UT-wise including Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) the total number of applications received/pending/rejected for grant of pension to the freedom fighters and their dependents along with the reasons for pendency and the steps taken to clear all the pending applications, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has received requests from freedom fighters and their dependents to increase the monthly pension under the scheme;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and
- (e) the other measures taken by the Government to address the grievances/ problems of freedom fighters and their dependents?

Answer

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

(a) ; Number of the freedom fighters and their dependents receiving Central Samman Pension through various Banks as on 01st January, 2015 under Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980, State/UT wise including Andhra Pradesh is given in the Annexure.

(b) : No application for grant of pension, complete in all respects and duly verified and recommended by the concerned State Government is pending with this Ministry.

(c) &(d): Representations from various Freedom Fighters' Organisations and individuals have been received from time to time to revise the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme. A Central Freedom Fighter Pensioner as well as his/her widow/widower receives ₹ 20,129/- per month. After death of the spouse, their three eligible unmarried daughters receive ₹ 4770/- each per month. Central Samman Pension/family pension is linked to Dearness Relief which is based on twelve monthly average increase in All India Consumer Price index. Dearness Relief is revised with effect from 1st August every year increasing the pension of freedom fighter. At present, there is no proposal under consideration to increase the pension of the freedom fighters.

(e); There exists a Committee of Eminent Freedom Fighters, chaired by the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs, to look into issues related to welfare of the freedom fighters/eligible dependents.