

रक्षा मंत्री भारत MINISTER OF DEFENCE INDIA

DO.No. 10(05)/2016/D(P/P)/2548-F/RM/16

31 May, 2016

Dear Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar,

Please refer to your letter dated 01st March, 2016 regarding the issue of delay in disbursal of pension and Pending Enquiry Award to widows and/or Next of Kin (NOK) of martyred soldiers resulting into financial hardship.

- 2. I have got the matter examined. I have been informed that the following provisions help in mitigating the financial hardship of the affected families/NOK:-
 - (a) Immediate relief from Army Group Insurance Fund (AGIF) to the tune of Rs. 30 lakhs in case of JCOs/ORs and Rs 60 lakhs in case of officers is disbursed to the NOK of the deceased.
 - (b) Ex-gratia is also disbursed to the NOK on approval by the Competent Authority in the following circumstances:-

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	S1.	Ex-gratia lumpsum compensation granted	Amount
	No.	to NOK	(Rs)
	(i)	Death in the course of duties due to	10
		accidents	lakhs
1	(ii)	Death in the couse of duties attributable to	10
-		acts of violence by terrorists, etc.	lakhs
	(iii)	Death occurring during enemy action in	15 lakhs
1		war or border skirmishes or in action	
		against militants, terrorists, etc.	
-	(iv)	Death occurring while on duty in the	15
1		specified High Altitude, inaccessible Border	lakhs
		Posts, etc. on account of natural disasters,	
		extreme weather conditions	
	(v)	Death occurring during enemy action in	20
-		war or war like engagements specifically	lakhs
		notified	

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3. However, I agree with your suggestion that PEA be authorized with immediate effect in such cases and procedure should be completed expeditiously. As per Regulation 17 and 23 to 29 Section 2 of Pension Regulations for the Army, Part-II (2008) Pending Enquiry Award can be granted by the Record Office at a monthly rate equal to the appropriate and applicable amount of the Ordinary Family Pension/Special Family Pension or Liberalized Family Pension, as the case may be, together with Dearness Relief. The PEA is made with effect from the date of death by the Record Offices in all the cases of JCOs/ORs. It is sanctioned immediately subsequent to death/martyrdom of the soldier in favour of the NOK initially upto a period of 6 months which can be further extended, if required.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Manohar Parrikar)

Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar

Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) 211, North Avenue New Delhi – 110 001