

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3217
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2006
FACILITIES TO SOLDIERS DEPLOYED IN J& K
Choudhary Shri Nikhil Kumar

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of soldiers has been killed in Kashmir recently;
- (b) if so, whether any special facility is given to the soldiers deployed in Jammu and Kashmir in view of the geographical conditions and terrorist activities there;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether compensation has been given to the families of those soldiers killed there; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) to (e): A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3217 FOR ANSWER ON 14.12.2006

A total number of 180 Army personnel including 12 officers have been killed in Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) in the counter insurgency operations during the period from 1.1.2006 to 5.12.2006.

The Army personnel deployed in J&K are provided the following special facilities:-

(i) Payment of Special Compensatory Counter Insurgency Allowance (SCCIA) at the three rates depending on the deployment of soldiers in field areas, modified field areas and peace areas.

(ii) Free conveyance of families of the officers and personnel below officer rank from old duty station to home or a selected place of residence in India, or alternatively retention of Government married accommodation/separated family accommodation occupied by the officers/personnel prior to their posting to Srinagar, and from there to new duty station on posting.

(iii) Conveyance of the baggage to home town/selected place of residence by the family soldier subject to the maximum admissible entitlement.

(iv) Retention of married accommodation by the widow of the soldier for additional period of one year further extendable by another six months in exceptional circumstances over and above the period of two years on payment of normal rent plus allied charges. The families of Army Personnel killed in Jammu & Kashmir in addition to the admissible pensionary benefits and encashment of leave are eligible for air/rail travel concessions, reservation of seats in professional institutes and other concessions in educational institutions, priority/concession in telephone connection, allotment of oil product agencies under 8% Defence quota, assistance from Army Wives Welfare Association, Army Officers Benevolent Fund, Army Central Welfare Fund and assistance from Army Welfare Corpus for marriage of daughter and agro based venture. Besides, 3% of reservation for housing to widows is provided by Army Welfare Housing Organisation.

The families of the Army Personnel who are killed and declared battle casualties are granted ex-gratia compensation in the range of Rs.5 lakhs to Rs.7.5 lakhs and compensation under the Army Group Insurance of Rs.15 lakhs in case of officers and Rs.7.5 lakhs in case of personnel below officer ranks. Besides, soldiers who are killed in Counter Insurgency Operations in J&K are provided ex-gratia of Rs.2 lakhs by the State Government of J&K.