

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:276

ANSWERED ON:02.12.2004

SETTLEMENT OF PENSION AND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE TO EX-SERVICEMEN

Sidhu Shri Navjot Singh

**Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government is aware about various hardships of ex-servicemen i.e. settlement of Pension and Medical assistance etc.;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps being taken to redress their various grievances;
- (d) whether the Government propose to grant pro-rata pension to officers who have tendered only five years of service in Short Service Commission; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Representations are received from various quarters about the delay in revision of pension, restoration of commuted value of pension, notification of family pension, settlement of disability pension claims and enhancement of dearness relief.

Ex-servicemen pensioners and their authorised dependents are provided outdoor treatment in service hospitals for minor diseases. They are not authorised for indoor medical treatment in service hospitals for serious diseases like cancer, total hip/knee replacement and renal transplant etc.

(c) (I). Steps taken to redress Pension grievances:- There are 21 lakhs defence pensioners to whom pension is disbursed through various agencies i.e. 61 defence pension disbursement offices, around 35,000 branches of Public Sector Banks, Treasury Offices, Post Offices, Pay & Account Offices and Pension Payment Offices in Nepal. Following steps are taken to reduce the various grievances:-

(i) Defence Pension Adalats are being organised in different parts of the country on regular basis to address the grievances of ex-servicemen near to their place of residence/work.

(ii) Training programmes are organised for the personnel of banks/treasuries/Defence Pension Disbursement Offices in order to educate and update them about the extant rules/regulations and procedures relating to pensionary matters.

(iii) Workshops are organised in association with Indian Banks Association and Reserve Bank of India for speedy revision of pension consequent to implementation of recommendations of Fifth Central Pay Commission

(iv) Latest instructions, format of various types of forms, procedure and the authorities concerned are available on the website of Principal Controller of Defence Accounts (Pension), Indian Air Force and Indian Army.

(v) Automation/computerisation of the Record Offices, Defence Pension Disbursement Offices, Banks and Service Headquarters is being done in a phased manner.

(vi) Single Window System of release of first payment cheque by Defence Pension Disbursement Offices has been introduced to reduce delays and make it hassle free.

(vi) Pension of the non-resident Indian Pensioners will not be stopped on account of change of nationality.

(II) Steps taken regarding Medical Care:- Ex-servicemen Contributory Health Scheme has been launched for implementation in a phased manner w.e.f. 1st April, 2003 to provide quality medicare to ex-servicemen in receipt of pension including disability pension and dependents to include wife, husband, legitimate children and wholly dependents parents. It is a contributory scheme. The scheme would be fully operationalised in a phased manner and would be completed by 31st March, 2008. Out of 227 ECHS poly clinics planned to be established through out the country, 124 ECHS polyclinics have already been made functional. Central Government Health Scheme and Railway Empanelled Hospitals have been permitted to be used by ECHS members on referral by ECHS poly clinics. Empanelment of hospitals for the scheme has also commenced.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.