

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2934
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27th March, 2023

EMPLOYMENT FOR WAR WIDOWS/ FAMILIES

2934 DR. SANTANU SEN:
SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has given any employment on compassionate ground to war widows/families of defence personnel in the last five years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, year-wise;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government has reviewed or proposes to review the various welfare measures presently extended to war widows/families in Armed Forces;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (g) the detail of the steps taken by Government for employment on compassionate ground to war widows/families of defence personnel in the last three years, year-wise?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(SHRI AJAY BHATT)

(a) to (g): Yes, Sir. The details of widows/families of defence personnel who have been granted employment during the last five years are as under:-

Army & Navy:

Year	No. of Widows/Families of Defence personnel granted employment	
	Army	Navy
2018	17	06
2019	15	05
2020	06	01
2021	10	08
2022	18	08
Total	66	28

Air Force:

Year	No. of Widows/Families of Defence personnel granted employment
2017-18	02
2018-19	01
2019-20	04
2020-21	05
2021-22	07
Total	19

Welfare schemes for the Ex-Servicemen(ESM) including War Widows/families in Armed Forces are being implemented by Kendriya Sainik Board (KSB). These schemes are being reviewed from time to time by the Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare(ESW). Details of Welfare Schemes being implemented for ESM including War Widows/families in Armed Forces are annexed.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTs (a) to (g) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2934 FOR ANSWER ON 27.03.2023 REGARDING “EMPLOYMENT FOR WAR WIDOWS/ FAMILIES”.

1. Financial assistance/ benefits given from Armed Forces Flag Day Fund (AFFDF) under Raksha Mantri Ex-Servicemen Welfare Fund (RMEWF): -

Sl. No.	Grants	Amount (in Rs.)
a)	Education Grant (upto two children) Boys/Girls upto Graduation Widows for PG (Pensioner/Non-Pensioner upto Havildar Rank) and upto two children	Rs.1,000/-pm
b)	Disabled Children Grant (Pensioner/Non-Pensioner upto JCO Rank)	Rs. 3,000/-pm
c)	Daughter’s Marriage Grant (upto 02 Daughters) (Pensioner/Non-Pensioner upto Havildar Rank)	Rs. 50,000/-*
	Widow Re-Marriage Grant (Pensioner/Non-Pensioner upto Havildar Rank) *If married solemnly on or after 21 st April, 2016.	
d)	Orphan Grant (Pensioner/Non-Pensioner All Ranks) Daughters of ex-servicemen till she is married. • One Son of ex-servicemen upto 21years of age.	Rs. 3,000/-PM
e)	Vocational Training Grant For Widows (Pensioner/Non- Pensioner upto Havildar Rank)	Rs. 20,000/- (One Time)

2. Subsidy on Home Loan: KSB Reimburses 50% of interest by way of subsidy on home loan from Bank / public sector institutions for construction of house to war bereaved, war disabled and attributable peace time casualties. Rs. 1,00,000/-(Max)

3. Prime Minister’s Scholarship Scheme: Total 5500 scholarships are provided to eligible wards based on merit for the entire duration of the courses. The rates of scholarship pare as follows: -

- (a) Rs.2500/-per month for boys.
- (b) Rs.3000/-per month for girls.

4. Financial support to institutions involved in rehabilitation of ESM: -

Sl. No.	Organisation	Quantum of Aid/Grant
(a)	Cheshire Homes (i)Lucknow, Delhi & Dehradun	Rs. 15,000/-per annum per inmate
(b)	War Memorial Hostels. There are 36 WMHs which provide shelter to the children of War Widows/War disabled, attributable and non attributable cases.	Rs. 1350/-per month

5. Reservation of seats in Medical/Dental Colleges for wards of Defence Personnel as Government of India Nominee. A total of 42 MBBS seats and 3 seats in BDS courses are allotted by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare to KSB for wards of Defence personnel as a Government of India nominee. Priority I is given to killed in action.

6. Rail Travel Concession Identity Cards. KSB Secretariat issues rail travel concession identity cards to war widows.

7. Children Education Grant: Following educational concession is being given to officers / Personnel Below Officer Rank missing / disabled / killed in action:-

- (i) Tuition Fees: Full reimbursement of tuition fee (Capitation fee and caution money not included) levied by the educational institutions concerned (including charges levied for the school bus maintained by the school or actual fares paid for railway pass for students or bus fare certified by the Head of Institutes).
- (ii) Hostel Charges: Full reimbursement of Hostel charges for those studying in boarding schools and colleges.
- (iii) Cost of books/stationary: Rs. 2000/- (Rupees two thousand only) per annum or the amount claimed by the student, whichever is less.
- (iv) Cost of Uniform where this is compulsory: Rs. 2000/- (Rupees two thousand only) or the amount claimed by the student, whichever is less.
- (v) Clothing: Rs. 700/- (Rupees seven hundred only) per annum per student or the amount claimed by the student, whichever is less.

8. Free Health Scheme: ECHS (Ex- Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme) provides cashless health care to war-widows/war disabled defence personnel and their NoKs. War Widows are not required to pay the membership fee.

9. Allotment of SAFAL Outlets: SAFAL outlets, a subsidiary of Mother Dairy Private Limited comprising of Fruit & Vegetable Shops are provided to Ex-Servicemen and Widows/ Dependents of service personnel who passed away in service. The same is only applicable in Delhi & NCR Region.

10. Issue of DGR Eligibility Certificate for allotment of Oil Product Agencies advertised under 8% Reserved Quota: The Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas has reserved 8% quota for allotment of LPG Distributorship and Petrol/Diesel Retail Outlets for Defence personnel which also include Widows/dependents of members of Armed Forces who died in war or in harness due to attributable or aggravated causes to Military Service. The eligibility certificate, certifying an individual's eligibility to apply for the above distributorship, is issued by the office of DGR to eligible persons. The final selection/ allotment is done by the concerned Oil Company as per their policy in vogue on the subject issue.

11. Reservation in CPSEs and Banks: As per Ministry of Finance, Bureau of Public Enterprises OM No. 6/55/79-BPE(GM-I) dated 13th March, 1980, 14.5% vacancies in Group 'C' and 24.5% vacancies in Group 'D' jobs are reserved for Ex-Servicemen including 4.5% for disabled ESM & dependent of Service personnel killed in action in Central Public Sector Enterprises(CPSEs). Also as per Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs (Banking Division) OM No. F/2/11/79-SCT(B) dated 09.06.1980, 14.5% vacancies in Group 'C' and 24.5% vacancies in Group 'D' jobs are reserved for Ex-Servicemen including 4.5% for disabled ESM & dependent of Service personnel killed in action in Public Sector banks.

12. Armed Forces Battle Casualties Welfare Fund (AFBCWF)

This is a Tri-Service Fund for grant of ex-gratia amount given to the Nok/Dependent of those who have laid down their lives, making the supreme sacrifice for the Nation or get grievously injured/disabled. This fund helps them mitigate immediate financial stress and is in addition to other grants given to NoK of Battle casualties.

The revised ex-gratia amount with effect from 6th May, 2020 is as per the details given below:-

Sl. No.	Battle Casualties	Financial Assistance (₹ in Lac)
(i)	Fatal	8.00
(ii)	Disability 60% and above	8.00
(iii)	Invalidated out due to Disability	8.00
(iv)	Disability less than 60%	4.00
