

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF EX-SERVICEMEN WELFARE
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1637
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15TH DECEMBER, 2025

DEPARTMENT OF EX-SERVICEMEN WELFARE (DESW) INTERNSHIP SCHEME

1637 SHRI MITHLESH KUMAR:
SHRI BABURAM NISHAD:
SHRI MADAN RATHORE:
SHRI MAYANKKUMAR NAYAK:
SHRI SHAMBHU SHARAN PATEL:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare (DESW) is currently implementing an internship scheme to sensitize the youth towards issues related to welfare of ex-servicemen;
- (b) if so, the current objectives and scope thereof;
- (c) the number of interns who joined the scheme since its inception and the number of applications received and approved;
- (d) the eligibility conditions, educational qualifications and procedural requirements for interns;
- (e) whether DESW has carried out any evaluation of the impact of the scheme, particularly with regard to the contribution of research reports submitted by the interns for policy reforms; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE

(SHRI SANJAY SETH)

IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(a) to (f) In July 2025, the Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare introduced an unpaid internship scheme with a minimum internship period of 2 months. The objective of the scheme is to encourage youth to gain firsthand understanding of:

- i) Welfare schemes for the Ex-Servicemen and their families
- ii) Resettlement and rehabilitation programs
- iii) Healthcare policies for veterans

The eligibility criteria for applying in this internship requires the applicant to be:

- i) A graduate / post-graduate student of any recognized university or institution in any academic stream
- ii) With no objection certificate from institution
- iii) Citizen of India

A notice inviting application under the internship scheme was placed on the website of Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare in the summer of 2025. A total of 31 applications were received, and 4 applicants were offered internship. None of the interns completed the minimum duration of two months. No evaluation of the scheme has been undertaken so far.
