

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
DEPARTMENT OF EX-SERVICEMEN WELFARE  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1012**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09<sup>th</sup> February, 2026

**MEMBERSHIP FEE FOR AVAILING ECHS  
BENEFITS BY WAR WIDOWS OF SOLDIERS**

1012. MS. INDU BALA GOSWAMI:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

- (a) whether war widows of soldiers are exempted from payment of the membership fee to avail benefits under ECHS in case of death due to war;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is a provision for granting financial assistance for the marriage of daughters of soldiers martyred in war, as well as for the remarriage of war widows; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE  
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(SHRI SANJAY SETH)

(a) & (b) Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme (ECHS) provides cashless and capless healthcare to ex-servicemen through a wide network of polyclinics and empanelled hospitals. Under this scheme, war widows are exempted from one time contribution towards ECHS membership, since 8<sup>th</sup> March 2004.

(c) & (d) The Kendriya Sainik Board provides financial assistance of Rs. 1 lakh to Ex-Servicemen (upto the rank of Havildar/equivalent) for marriage of daughter (upto two daughters) and to widows of Ex-Servicemen.

\*\*\*\*\*