

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1199**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 29TH JULY, 2026/ SHRAVANA 7, 1948 (SAKA)

SWATANTRATA SAINIK SAMMAN YOJANA

1199 SMT. SAGARIKA GHOSE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) State-wise and Union Territory-wise number of beneficiaries receiving Samman Pension under the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Yojana, separately indicating surviving freedom fighters and eligible dependents;

(b) State-wise and Union Territory-wise list of such beneficiaries;

(c) the present rate of Samman Pension and details of all other benefits, concessions and entitlements extended by the Central Government to freedom fighters and their eligible dependents; and

(d) whether any review has been undertaken of the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Yojana during the last five years and, and whether Government proposes to revise the pension amount or extend additional benefits, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI BANDI SANJAY KUMAR)**

(a): The Ministry of Home Affairs administers Swatantrata Sainik Samman Yojana, a scheme for grant of pension to Freedom Fighters and their eligible dependents. Central Samman Pension under the scheme is granted only to those Freedom Fighters who fulfill the eligibility criteria and evidentiary requirements prescribed under the Scheme and apply for the same through the concerned State Government. As on date, total number of beneficiaries

under the scheme are 12,898 which includes 1,553 Freedom Fighters and 11,345 eligible dependents.

(b): State-wise and Union Territory-wise details of the beneficiaries of Swatantrata Sainik Samman Yojana is given at Annexure-I.

(c): The pension amount for freedom fighters and their eligible spouses/daughters under the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Yojana is given at Annexure -II. The details of other benefits, concessions and entitlements prescribed under the scheme for freedom fighters are given at Annexure-III.

(d): The Swatantrata Sainik Samman Yojana is a Central Sector Scheme. The Third Party evaluation of the scheme is carried out at the time of continuation of the scheme from one Finance Commission cycle to another Finance Commission Cycle. Accordingly, the last third party evaluation of the scheme was carried out at the time of continuation of the scheme for 15th Finance Commission Cycle through Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA) in December, 2020.

The Third Party evaluation for continuation of the scheme beyond the 15th Finance Commission Cycle has been assigned to Quality Council of India (QCI), New Delhi.

The Policy Guidelines of the scheme provide for revision of Dearness Relief (DR) twice a year and the basic pension only occasionally. Accordingly, the basic pension under Swatantrata Sainik Samman Yojana was last revised with effect from 15.08.2016 and Dearness Relief (DR) was revised w.e.f. 1st July, 2025.

Annexure-I

**State wise list of SSSY beneficiaries
(Freedom Fighter/Spouse/Daughter)**

Sl. No.	State	Freedom Fighter	Spouse	Daughter	Total
1	Telangana	606	2171	35	2812
2	West Bengal	52	1171	689	1912
3	Maharashtra	153	1193	91	1437
4	Bihar	196	778	12	986
5	Tamil Nadu	81	613	58	752
6	Karnataka	68	543	109	720
7	Kerala	27	417	119	563
8	Goa	75	314	9	398
9	Uttar Pradesh	35	313	29	377
10	Punjab	66	269	13	348
11	Assam	6	189	128	323
12	Andhra Pradesh	26	204	25	255
13	Himachal Pradesh	32	205	4	241
14	Odisha	11	187	35	233
15	Haryana	16	200	11	227
16	Uttarakhand	2	161	2	165
17	Madhya Pradesh	14	102	13	129
18	Gujarat	20	70	24	114
19	Rajasthan	1	100	4	105

20	Tripura	1	65	32	98
21	Jharkhand	7	75	11	93
22	Chhattisgarh	3	24	4	31
23	Manipur	2	5	4	11
24	Meghalaya	0	5	3	8
25	Mizoram	0	0	1	1
26	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0
27	Nagaland	0	0	0	0
28	Sikkim	0	0	0	0
Total		1500	9374	1465	12339
Union Territory wise list of SSSY beneficiaries (Freedom Fighter/Spouse/Daughter)					
Sl. No.	Union Territory	Freedom Fighter	Spouse	Daughter	Total
1	Jammu & Kashmir	32	267	67	366
2	Delhi	14	83	20	117
3	Puducherry	3	37	15	55
4	Chandigarh	2	8	1	11
5	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	1	0	1
6	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	2	6	1	9
7	Ladakh	0	0	0	0
8	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0
Total		53	402	104	559
Grand Total (State and UT)		1553	9776	1569	12898

The pension amount for freedom fighters and their eligible spouses/daughters under the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Yojana

S. No.	Category of freedom fighters	Amount of Pension w.e.f. 15.08.2016 (₹ per month)	Dearness Relief @56% w.e.f. 01.07.2025 (₹ per month)	Total amount of Pension in rupees (₹ per month)
1.	Ex-Andaman Political Prisoners/spouses	₹30,000/-	₹16,800/-	₹46,800/-
2.	Freedom fighters who suffered outside British India/spouses	₹28,000/-	₹15,680/-	₹43,680/-
3.	Other Freedom Fighters/spouse including INA	₹26,000/-	₹14,560/-	₹40,560/-
4.	Dependent parents/eligible daughters (maximum 3 daughters at any point of time)	50% of the sum that would have been admissible to the Freedom Fighter	50% of the sum that would have been admissible to the Freedom Fighter	50% of the sum that would have been admissible to the Freedom Fighter

The details of other benefits, concessions and entitlements prescribed under the scheme for freedom fighters

- i. Free life time railway passes of 2nd/3rd AC in Duronto, 1st Class/2nd AC by any train including Rajdhani/Shatabdi/Jan Shatabdi) for Freedom Fighters/Spouse along with one companion in same class.**
- ii. Free Medical facilities under Central Government Health Services and free medical treatment in hospitals run by Public Sector Undertakings are provided to the Freedom Fighters and eligible dependents.**
- iii. Free transit stay with meal at State Bhawan, New Delhi for Freedom Fighters and eligible dependents alongwith one companion.**
