Government of India

Ministry of Finance

Department of Expenditure

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1831

To be answered on Tuesday, August 4, 2026

13 Shravana, 1948 (Saka)

HRA DEDUCTION FOR GOVERNMENT SERVANTS

1831 Smt. Sumitra Balmik:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the rationale underlying the existing policy whereby House Rent Allowance is deducted from both the spouses when both are Government Servants and are residing together in accommodation allotted by the Government;

(b) whether Government has received any representations from Government employees or their services associations seeking reconsideration of this policy, and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to review the policy so as to make it more equitable for couples where both spouses are in Government Service; and

(d) if so, the details thereof.

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHARY)

(a) House Rent Allowance is granted to Central Government employees who are not provided with Government accommodation, to compensate them for expenditure incurred on hiring residential accommodation. Where both spouses are Government employees stationed at the same station and either is allotted Government accommodation, the family is considered to have been provided with Government Accommodation. Consequently, no expenditure is incurred by the other spouse on accommodation. Hence, the HRA is not admissible to them.

(b) No.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

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