

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF EX-SERVICEMEN WELFARE
LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.425
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 16TH DECEMBER, 2016

RAJYA AND ZILA SAINIK BOARDS

*425. SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE
be pleased to state:

- (a) the role and responsibilities of the Rajya and Zila Sainik Boards;
- (b) whether the Government has assessed the performance of the said Boards and if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (c) whether basic amenities including housing and manpower are deficient in such Boards and if so, the reasons therefor and the corrective measures taken by the Government thereon;
- (d) whether cases of corruption / irregularities in said Boards have been reported during the last three years; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF DEFENCE
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(SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR)
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(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 425 FOR ANSWER ON 16.12.2016

The Kendriya Sainik Board (KSB) Secretariat, an attached office under the administrative control of Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare, Ministry of Defence, is the Apex Body of Government of India responsible for implementing the Central Government policies for welfare and rehabilitation of the war deceased/disabled, retired service personnel and their dependents. These welfare schemes are implemented through Rajya Sainik Boards (RSBs) located in State capitals and Zila Sainik Boards (ZSBs) located at district level, which are under the administrative control of respective State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. The detailed roles and responsibilities of the Rajya and Zila Sainik Boards are at Annexure.

Secretary, Kendriya Sainik Board carries out annual inspection of the Rajya Sainik Boards to evaluate their functional efficiency and effectiveness with particular reference to the implementation of the policies on welfare and resettlement of ESM and their dependents. The RSBs/ZSBs are mandated to submit periodical reports relating to the facilities/logistics provided to the RSBs/ZSBs and the items of work undertaken by them and deficiency, if any. No significant deficiencies except unfilled vacancies have been reported.

No reports have been received regarding deficiencies on account of housing of RSBs/ZSBs. Deficiencies of manpower in the RSBs and ZSBs have been reported. Against 783 sanctioned posts in RSBs across all States/UTs, 608 are filled and against 4134 sanctioned posts in ZSBs 2941 are filled. The State Governments / UT Administrations are requested at the level of Hon'ble Raksha Mantri to expedite the filling up of these posts. Secretary, KSB also flags these issues during the annual meetings of the RSBs.

Representations/complaints regarding irregularities in matters of appointment to the various posts in RSBs/ZSBs and financial matters have been reported to be received in KSB Secretariat during the last three years. The same were forwarded to the concerned State Governments for appropriate action by KSB Secretariat as the RSBs/ZSBs are under the administrative control of the State Governments.

ANNEXURE REFERRED IN THE REPLY GIVEN IN THE STATEMENT IN PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 425 FOR ANSWER ON 16.12.2016

Role and Responsibilities of Rajya and Zila Sainik Boards

The Departments of Sainik Welfare / Rajya Sainik Boards in the States/UTs exercises general control and supervision over the Zila Sainik Boards, which are entrusted mainly with the following roles / responsibilities:

- (a) Settlement of financial problems such as pension and other retirement/release benefits/dues to Ex-Servicemen and grants and assistance in kind to Ex-Servicemen beneficiaries and dependents from the Central/State Governments or other Organisations such as the Indian Red Cross Society etc.
- (b) Maintaining close liaison with the Pension Disbursing authorities/agencies in the District to ensure prompt and correct payment of pension and reliefs to Ex-Servicemen pensioners or their dependents.
- (c) Assist families of serving personnel staying separately during their absence away on duty.
- (d) Promote and maintain welfare measures in the District such as Rest House for Ex-Servicemen, old age pensioners' homes, vocational and other training facilities and hostel for children of serving defence personnel and Ex-Servicemen.
- (e) To maintain close and effective liaison for purpose of resettlement through employment of Ex-Servicemen with local Central/State/private industrial organisations, local employment exchange, District Industries/Block Development Offices:
- (f) Provide all resettlement assistance to war widows, dependents and war disabled as well as to those who died/disabled while in service due to attributable reasons.

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(g) Organize Armed Forces Flag Day under aegis of the President ZSB (District Collector) and Flag Day collections and any other authorized fund raising measures in the district.

(h) Organize rallies/reunion of Ex-Servicemen. Organize welfare meetings with President ZSB to resolve problems of Ex-Servicemen and widows, preferably once each month on a fixed day.

(i) Explore avenues for providing educational and vocational training facilities for Ex-Servicemen and their dependents to enable them to seek employment or set up self-employment venture.
