

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3854**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 17TH MARCH, 2020/ PHALGUNA 27, 1941 (SAKA)

PENSION TO FREEDOM FIGHTERS

†3854. SHRI KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received complaints from freedom fighters and widows of martyrs regarding non-receipt of pension by them due to some reasons;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has streamlined the application process for those old widows, 75 years of age or more who apply for pension after the death of their husbands;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has taken any cognizance of the problems being faced by these extremely old age pensioners due to digitisation; and

(f) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)**

(a) & (b): After sanction of Swatantrata Sainik Samman Yojana (SSSY) pension, the disbursement is done by the banks. As far as non-disbursement of pension is concerned very few complaints are received in Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) which are taken up immediately with the concerned bank for their resolution.

(c) & (d): To streamline the application process of dependent pension under Swatantrata Sainik Samman Yojana, detailed Revised Policy Guidelines 2014 were issued. As per these guidelines, after death of the pensioner, the pension is transferred to the widow by the concerned bank itself if she applies within 6 months. After 6 months, the application is referred to MHA for process & grant of pension.

MHA has set up a Pension Disbursement Monitoring Cell (PDMC) to monitor disbursement of freedom fighter pension. Further, meetings are convened with the banks from time to time to ensure that pensions are disbursed smoothly.

(e) & (f): Pension is disbursed through authorized banks. The digitization is a process of reconciliation of records available in Ministry with Banks, CPAO, PAO & AG Offices on a digital platform. There is no role of pensioners in this process, therefore, no such problems are faced by extremely old age pensioners due to digitization.
