

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.618  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 26<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2016

RESCUE OPERATION AT SIACHEN

618. SHRI R. GOPALAKRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE j{k k ea=h  
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has launched any rescue operation to locate / retrieve the bodies of soldiers who were buried in the avalanche in Siachen recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Central Government announced any special compensation to the families of those soldiers died on duty; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF DEFENCE

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(SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR)

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**(a) & (b): On the night of 02/03 Feb, 2016, a massive ice wall facing Sonam Post in Northern Glacier (Siachen) suddenly collapsed and 10 Army personnel were trapped under it. All possible resources of the Army/Air Force were mobilized and directed towards the rescue operation launched to rescue them. On 08<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2016, mortal remains of five soldiers were recovered and Lance Naik Hanumanthappa Koppad was rescued alive. On 09<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2016, mortal remains of the remaining four soldiers were recovered. Lance Naik Koppad, however, expired on 11<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2016 despite medical efforts at Research and Referral Hospital, New Delhi.**

**(c) & (d): The details of benefits/compensation admissible to Next of Kin of the soldiers (fatal battle casualties) is annexed.**

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**ANNEXURE REFERRED IN THE REPLY GIVEN IN PARTS (c) & (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED  
QUESTION NO. 618 FOR ANSWER ON 26.2.2016**

**MONETARY COMPENSATION TO SOLDIERS' FAMILIES:**

**I. Ex Gratia Lump Sum Compensation from Central Government:**

- (i) Death occurring due to accidents in the course of duties - Rs.10.00 lakh
- (ii) Death in the course of duties attributable to acts of violence by terrorists, etc. - Rs.10.00 lakh
- (iii) Death occurring during enemy action in war or border skirmishes or in action against militants, terrorists, etc. - Rs.15.00 lakh
- (iv) Death occurring during enemy action in International war or war like engagements specifically notified - Rs.20.00 lakh
- (v) Death occurring while on duty in the specified high altitude, inaccessible border posts, etc. on account of natural disasters, extreme weather conditions - Rs.15.00 lakh.

**II. Details of other Monetary Benefits entitled to Next of Kin (NoK) of Battle Casualty:**

- (i) **Liberalised Family Pension** as applicable to Battle Casualty that is equal to emoluments last drawn by the deceased individual.
- (ii) **Death-cum-Retirement Gratuity** that is based on length of service rendered and emoluments last drawn by the deceased individual.
- (iii) Army Group Insurance Fund:-
  - a. Officers : Rs. 60.00 lakh
  - b. JCO/ORs : Rs. 30.00 lakh
- (iv) Army Group Insurance Maturity that is based on the contribution made by the deceased Army personnel.
- (v) Army Wives Welfare Association Fund:-
  - a. Officers : Rs.10,000/-
  - b. JCOs/ORs : Rs.15,000/-
- (vi) Army Officers Benevolent Fund:-
  - Officers : Rs.50,000/-
- (vii) Army Central Welfare Fund: Rs.30,000/-

**III. Other Benefits:**

- (i) Education Concession Card
- (ii) Air Travel Concession Card
- (iii) Telephone Concession

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