No. 45/06/2016-FF(P)
Government of India/Bharat Sarkar
Ministry of Home Affairs/Grih Mantralaya

2nd Floor, NDCC-II Building,
Jai Singh Road, New Delhi-110 001,
17th August, 2016.

To,

The Chief Controller of Accounts,
Ministry of Home Affairs,
North Block,
New Delhi-110 001.

Subject: Enhancement of pension under the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980 in respect of freedom fighters and their eligible dependents.

Sir,

I am directed to say that it has been decided to enhance the total amount of monthly pension of freedom fighters and the dependent family pension of spouses (widows/widowers), eligible daughters and dependent parents of deceased freedom fighters with effect from 15.08.2016. Consequently, the monthly amount of pension of various categories of freedom fighter pensioners will be as below with effect from 15.08.2016:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Category of freedom fighters</th>
<th>Present amount of pension (per month)</th>
<th>Enhanced amount of pension (per month)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Ex-Andaman Political Prisoners/spouses</td>
<td>Rs.24,775/-</td>
<td>Rs.30,000/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Freedom fighters who suffered outside British India/spouses</td>
<td>Rs.23,085/-</td>
<td>Rs.28,000/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Other Freedom Fighters/ spouses including INA</td>
<td>Rs.21,395/-</td>
<td>Rs.26,000/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Dependent parents/eligible daughters (maximum 3 daughters at any point of time)</td>
<td>Rs. 3,380/- (dependent parents) Rs.5,070/- (daughters)</td>
<td>50% of the sum that would have been admissible to the Freedom Fighter i.e. in the range of Rs.13,000/- to Rs. 15,000/-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Handwritten note]
2. It is also informed that the existing Dearness Relief system based on All India Consumer Price Index for Industrial workers, which was hitherto applied to freedom fighter pensioners on annual basis, has been discontinued and replaced by the Dearness Allowance system applicable to Central Government employees twice a year.

3. It is, therefore, requested to issue necessary instructions to all concerned to modify the existing Pension Payment Orders (PPOs) of the freedom fighter pensioners and the eligible dependent pensioners of deceased freedom fighters, in each case, so as to effect payment of revised monthly pension as indicated in paragraph 1 and 2 above.

4. Hindi version will follow.

Yours faithfully,

(Meenu Batra)
Deputy Secretary to the Government of India
Tel. No. 23438062
No. 45/06/2016-FF(P)
Government of India/Bharat Sarkar
Ministry of Home Affairs/Grih Manralaya

New Delhi, the 17th August, 2016

Copy forwarded for information and similar action to:-

1. The Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure, North Block, New Delhi-110 001.
3. The Chief Accountant, Reserve Bank of India, Central Office, Department of Account & Expenditure, Mumbai. It is requested that necessary instructions be issued to the authorized banks for making payment of pension to various categories of freedom fighters and their eligible dependents at the enhanced rates from the 15.08.2016.
4. Chief Controller of Accounts, Central Pension Accounting Office (CPAO), Bhikaji Kama Place, Trilokpur-II, Behind Hotel Hyatt Regency, New Delhi-110 066.
8. Prime Minister’s Office, South Block, New Delhi.
9. The Cabinet Secretariat, Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi w.r.t. the ID No. 261/1/9/2016.Cab. dated 17.08.2016.
10. CPPCs of all 28 authorized banks (list attached).
11. PS to Home Minister, MHA, North Block, New Delhi/Rs to MOS(CH) MHA.
12. Private Secretaries to HS/SS (F)/AS(F)/JS (FFR).
13. All Officers and staff of Freedom Fighters Division, Ministry of Home Affairs, NDCC-II Building, New Delhi.
14. IT Cell, MHA for uploading this letter on MHA’s website.
15. 100 spare copies.

Deputy Secretary to the Government of India

(Meenu Batra)
No. 45/06/2016-FF(P)
Government of India/Bharat Sarkar
Ministry of Home Affairs/Grih Mantralaya
Freedom Fighters & Rehabilitation Division
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2nd Floor, NDCC-II Building,
Jai Singh Road, New Delhi-110 001,

To,
The Chief Controller of Accounts,
Ministry of Home Affairs,
North Block,
New Delhi-110 001.

Subject: Enhancement of pension under the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980 in respect of freedom fighters and their eligible dependents.

Sir,

This is in continuation of this Ministry’s Order of even number dated 17.08.2016 on the subject cited above. It is hereby informed that the Cabinet in its meeting held on 21.09.2016 has approved the proposal for enhancement of pension under the Swatantrara Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980 in respect of freedom fighters and their eligible dependents. Further, it has also been decided that the existing Dearness Relief system based on All India Consumer Price Index for Industrial workers, which was hitherto applied to freedom fighter pensioners on annual basis, may be discontinued and replaced by the Dearness Allowance system applicable to Central Government employees twice a year. This will be termed as “Dearness Relief”, which is the appropriate word in case of pensioners.

However, this provision may not be construed to equate the Freedom Fighters Pension under Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension scheme, 1980 with service pension given to the central/state government employees after their retirement/superannuation.

2. It has also been decided to bring the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980 under the ambit of Aadhaar based DBT. Once the pensioners come under the ambit of Aadhaar based DBT, they would not only be able to receive money directly into their bank accounts, but also be able to withdraw money at their door-step using

.......p/2...
Aadhaar Enabled Micro-ATMs. They can also use “Jeevan Praman” to get their annual life certificates and would not need to make a visit to their bank branches for this purpose. Further, in order to accomplish the task within a time frame, it has been decided that the process of linking these pension accounts with their respective Aadhaar numbers should be speeded up in order to enable pensioners to derive all the benefits of Aadhaar and their pensions could be disbursed seamlessly though Aadhaar linked bank accounts from the month of January, 2017.

3. Rest of the contents of the letter remain the same.

4. Hindi version will follow.

Yours faithfully,

(Meenju Batra)
Deputy Secretary to the Government of India
Tel. No. 23438062
Copy forwarded for information and similar action to:-

1. The Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure, North Block, New Delhi-110 001.
3. The Chief Accountant, Reserve Bank of India, Central Office, Department of Account & Expenditure, Mumbai. It is requested that necessary instructions be issued to the nationalized banks for making payment of pension to various categories of freedom fighters and their eligible dependents at the enhanced rates from the 15.08.2016.
4. Chief Controller of Accounts, Central Pension Accounting Office (CPAO), Bhikaji Cama Place, Tikoot-II, Behind Hotel Hyatt Regency, New Delhi-110 066.
8. Prime Minister's Office, South Block, New Delhi.
9. The Cabinet Secretariat, Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi w.r.t. the ID No. 39/CM/2016 (i) dated 07.08.2016.
10. CPPCs of all 28 authorized banks (list attached).
11. PS to Home Minister, MHA, North Block, New Delhi.
12. Private Secretaries to HS/SS (F)/JS (FFR).
13. All Officers and staff of Freedom Fighters Division, Ministry of Home Affairs, NDCC-II Building, New Delhi.
14. IT Cell, MHA for uploading this letter on MHA’s website.
15. 100 spare copies.

Deputy Secretary to the Government of India

(Meenu Batra)