

New Delhi, the 23rd March, 1992.

To

The Chief of the Army Staff  
The Chief of the Naval Staff  
The Chief of the Air Staff

Sub:- Grant of family pension and gratuity to the families etc. of Armed Forces personnel/pensioners who disappear suddenly and whose whereabouts are not known.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to this Ministry's letters of even number dated 3rd June 1988 and 20th March 1990 and to say that the guidelines contained in the succeeding paragraphs will regulate payment of the benefits granted under the above noted letters.

2. The date of disappearance of the serving Armed Forces personnel/pensioners will be reckoned from the date the First Information Report is lodged with the Police by the family and the period of one year after which the benefits of family pension and gratuity are to be sanctioned, will be reckoned from this date. However, the benefits to be sanctioned to the family, etc., of the missing personnel will be based on and regulated by the emoluments drawn by him and the rules/orders applicable to him as on the last date he/she was on duty including authorised periods of leave. Family pension at normal/enhanced rates, as may be applicable in individual cases, will be payable to the families of missing personnel. Family pension where sanctioned at pre-1-1-1986 rates will be revised and consolidated w.e.f. 1.1.1986 in terms of the Govt of India letter No.1(4)/87/D(Pens/Sers) dt. 27th July, 1987, as amended from time to time.

3. In the case of missing pensioners, the family pension at the rates indicated in the PPO will be payable and authorised by the Pension Sanctioning Authority. Where the PPO does not contain this information, the Pension Sanctioning Authority will take necessary action to sanction the family pension as due, as provided in para 2 above.

4. Death gratuity will also be payable to the families, but not exceeding the amount which would have been payable as Retirement gratuity if the person had retired. The difference between retirement gratuity and death gratuity shall be subsequently payable after the death is conclusively established or on the expiry of seven years period from the date of missing.

5. An indemnity bond will be obtained for the above purpose from the family members etc. in the formats enclosed as Appendix 'A' (for missing personnel) and as Appendix 'B' (for missing pensioners) to this letter, which have been prepared by the Deptt of Pension & Pensioners Welfare in consultation with Deptt of Legal Affairs.

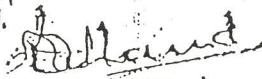
6. Cases already settled otherwise, than in accordance with this letter need not be re-opened, unless such a re-opening will be to the advantage of the beneficiaries.

7. This issues with the concurrence of Finance Division of this Ministry vide their U.O. No.285/Pen of 1992.

8. Hindi version will follow.

(Based on Deptt of Pension & Pensioners Welfare O.M. No.1/17/86-P&PW(C) dt.25.1.1991)

Yours faithfully,

  
(DIWAN CHAND)  
DESK OFFICER

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