

No. 12(16)/85/D(Pens/Sers)  
Govt. of India,  
Ministry of Defence  
New Delhi, Dated 26th August '93

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 of Armed Forces personnel/pensioners who disappear suddenly and whose whereabouts are not known.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to this Ministry's letter of even number dated 23<sup>rd</sup> March '1992 on the above subject and to say that in accordance with the provisions contained therein the date of disappearance of the serving Armed Forces personnel/pensioners is reckoned from the date the First Information Report is lodged with the police by the family ~~and~~ and the period of one year after which the benefits of Family Pension and Gratuity are to be sanctioned, is reckoned from this date. At present the Family Pension is sanctioned and paid to the eligible member of the family one year after the date of lodging the FIR with the Police and no Family Pension is paid for the intervening period of one year from the date the F.I.R. is lodged to the date the family pension can be sanctioned.

2. The above practice is causing hardship to the families. It has, therefore, been decided that the Family Pension, which in pursuance of the earlier orders, will continue to be sanctioned and paid one year after the date of lodging the F.I.R., will accrue from the date of lodging the F.I.R. or expiry of leave of the service personnel who has disappeared whichever is later. At the time of issue of sanction of Family Pension, the payment of pension from the date of accrual will be authorised. The usual procedure of obtaining the Indemnity Bond etc. will continue to be followed while sanctioning payment of family pension as laid down in Govt. letter of even number dated 23 March, 1992. It will be ensured by the concerned authorities that Family Pension is not authorised for any period during which payment of pay and

(186)

allowances in respect of the disappeared service personnel has been made:

3. The provisions of this letter take effect from 18 February, 1993, based on Deptt. of Pension & Pensioners Welfare OM No. 1/17/P&PW/86-E dated 18 February, 1993.

4. This issues with the concurrence of Finance Division of this Ministry vide their U.O. No. 1793/Pen-93 dated 25.8.93.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

(DIWAN CHAND)  
DESK OFFICER