

BRIEF

Army Battle Casualties Welfare Fund

A new Fund namely, 'Army Battle Casualties Welfare Fund (ABCWF)' has been set up in Ministry of Defence, D/o Ex-Servicemen Welfare following a large number of requests to Hon'ble Raksha Mantri from members of general public who offered to provide monetary assistance to the families of battle casualties especially after Siachen incident in February 2016 in which 10 soldiers were buried in an avalanche. The fund has been created under The Charitable Endowments Act, 1890.

2. Financial assistance of Rs.2.00 lakh will be provided to the army battle casualties which are fatal, 60% and above disability and battle casualties invalidated out due to disability and Rs.1.00 lakh to disability less than 60%. This will be in addition to financial assistance from Army Groups Insurance, ex-gratia and assistance from Army Welfare Fund. Financial assistance of Rs.3.04Cr. has been released to the first batch of 152 battle casualties out of the Fund.
3. There will be minimum requirement of around Rs.5-6 Cr. annually to provide financial assistance to battle casualties. In case there is a gap between the funds required and the amount contributed by public/private organizations and members of general public, the Government will take necessary steps to organize the same through Army Hqrs. A Bank Account bearing No.90552010165915 has been opened in the South Block Branch of Syndicate Bank, New Delhi for public to deposit money.
4. A draft scheme/SoP has been formulated for administration of the Fund and disbursement of financial assistance to NoKs of battle casualties. The scheme broadly lays down the objective/assets of the Fund, eligibility for financial assistance, management of the Fund, procedure for receipt of donations and disbursement of financial assistance to NoKs of BCs etc. The Scheme will be implemented through Army Hqrs, Adjutant General Branch.
5. Deputy Secretary (Res.I) has been appointed the Custodian/Treasurer of the Fund by Hon'ble Raksha Mantri.
6. The management and administration of the Fund will be overseen by a Managing Committee headed by Hon'ble Raksha Mantri.
7. The scheme has been notified on 17.07.2017 and made effective from 1.1.2016. The scheme was launched by Hon'ble Raksha Mantri on 25.0.2017 and felicitated the NoKs of the battle casualties. Financial assistance of Rs.30.4 Cr has been released to 152 battle casualties out of the Fund.