No. 08/03/2011-FF(P) Government of India/Bharat Sarkar Ministry of Home Affairs/Grih Mantralaya Freedom Fighter Division Freedom Fighter Policy Sect ****

> 1st Floor, Lok Nayak Bhawan, Khan Market, New Delhi-110003, dated the 23 February, 2012.

Chief Secretaries of all the State Governments/ UT Administrators.

Sub: Dependent family pension under the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme (SSSP), 1980 to the widows of the deceased freedom fighter pensioners.

Sir,

I am directed to invite your attention to this Ministry's letter No. 8/2/98-FF(P) dated 13.10.2000 on the subject cited above (copy enclosed for ready reference). Para 2 (iv) of the letter stipulates "that in case the deceased freedom fighter had communicated to this Ministry the nomination of more than one legally wedded wives as dependents, the family pension admissible to one dependent widow would be shared by them equally. Such widows would not be treated as separate entities for grant of family pension under the aforesaid scheme."

2. It is clarified that the letter dated 13.10.2000 containing the above clarification is applicable not only for the future cases but in respect of past cases also. The effective date of this letter was from the date of issue of the order i.e. 13.10.2000 which means no recovery in the pas cases would be effective.

3. It is further clarified that in a case a freedom fighter had two legally wedded wives, the family pension is to be shared equally by them on death of their husband who was a Central Samman Pensioner. And on death of one of the two such widows, the surviving one will be entitled for full family pension.

4. It is requested the instructions in this regard may be issued to all concerned to keep the above in view while deciding on requests for transfer of dependent family pension.

Copy to:-

- 1) Chief Controller of Accounts, (Pension & Misc), Jam Nagar House, New Delhi.
- 2) Chief Controller of Accounts, C.P.A.O., Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi.
- 3) The Comptroller and Auditor General of India, 10 Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi, it is requested that all AGs be advised to issue necessary instructions to all Treasury officers for disbursing the pension to central Samman Pensioner/freedom fighters.
- 4) Joint Secretary (Banking), Ministry of Finance, Department of Financial Services, Jeevan Deep Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi.
- 5) The Chief Accountant, Reserve Bank of India, Central Office, Department of Accounts and Expenditure (Bombay), Mumbai.
- 6) The Comptroller General of Accounts, Ministry of Finance, Lok Nayak Bhawan, Khan Market, New Delhi.
- 7) Chairman & MD of all Public Sector Banks (as per list attached) with the request to advise the concerned CPPC in the matter.
- Chief Controller of Accounts, MHA, New Delhi/ Pay and Accounts Officer (Pension and Misc.), Ministry of Home Affairs, Block No. 10, Gali No. 1 & 2, Jamnagar House, New Delhi-110001.
- 9) All officers of Freedom fighters' Division.

(Sadhna Hiranandani) Under Secretary to the Government of India.