

V. Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board, Pondicherry

The State Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board, Pondicherry was constituted on 13 July 1965 to deal with matters connected with serving and ex-service personnel of the armed forces, their families and dependents and the families and dependents of deceased ex-service personnel. The State Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board redesignated as Rajya Sainik Board, Pondicherry in 1976 functions under the patronage of the Lieutenant-Governor of Pondicherry. There are ten official and seven non-official members in the Board.

The expenditure of the Board is met out of the contributions made by the Centre and the Pondicherry Administration. The Employment Officer, Pondicherry is the Honorary Secretary of the S.S.A. Board. The Board originally operated two funds, i.e. the Pondicherry Ex-Service Personnel Benevolent Fund and the Special Fund for Reconstruction and Rehabilitation of Ex-servicemen. These two funds were subsequently amalgamated and came to be known as the Special Fund for Reconstruction and Rehabilitation of Ex-servicemen.

The following categories of financial assistance are extended from the funds :

1. Immediate grant of relief for cases requiring spot assistance.
2. Pocket money for ex-service T.B. and leprosy patients.
3. Transport charges for ex-service T.B. and leprosy patients.
4. Lumpsum free grants for disabled ex-servicemen to do some small business.
5. Short-term loans for employed ex-servicemen.
6. Cash relief for the settlement of families and dependants of jawans killed or wounded or missing in action.
7. Cash grants for indigent children of deceased personnel towards payment of examination and special fees.

8. Short-term loans for unemployed ex-servicemen to do business.
9. Stipend for the children and dependents of serving personnel to undergo training in Industrial Training Institutes.
10. Stipend for ex-service personnel to undergo training in Industrial Training Institutes.
11. Loan for starting business on a co-operative basis.
12. Financial assistance for the marriage of daughters of ex-servicemen and of those killed in action.
13. Stipend for ex-servicemen/children and dependents of ex-servicemen/children and dependents of serving personnel to undergo teacher training in any recognised institution.
14. Reimbursement of full fee charges collected by any technical institution for undergoing training in typewriting, shorthand, book-keeping etc. in respect of children of ex-servicemen and dependents.
15. Book allowance to children of ex-servicemen studying in Pre-University classes, degree classes, post-graduate classes and doing professional courses.
16. Financial assistance for the purchase of spectacles, artificial dentures and hearing aids.
17. Financial assistance to widows/dependents of ex-servicemen to meet the funeral expenses of ex-servicemen.

A statement showing the different categories of financial assistance extended by the Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board and the number of beneficiaries for the period 1970 to 1975 is given below :

Sl. No.	Nature of grant	1970		1973		1975	
		No. of beneficiaries (3)	Amount (4)	No. of beneficiaries (5)	Amount (6)	No. of beneficiaries (7)	Amount (8)
(1)	(2)						
			Rs. P.		Rs. P.		Rs. P.
1.	Short-term loan to employed Ex-servicemen ..	44	13,872.00	42	18,260.00	13	6,280.00
2.	Short-term loan to unemployed Ex-servicemen	8	3,400.00	11	5,000.00	10	4,300.00

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
			Rs. P.		Rs. P.		Rs. P.
3.	Lumpsum free grant ..	1	200.00	6	1,800.00	3	375.00
4.	Marriage grant ..	—	—	4	1,200.00	12	3,438.02
5.	Stipend to Ex-servicemen children and dependents of ex-servicemen/serving personnel undergoing Teacher Training Course	—	—	1	304.52	3	253.16
6.	Immediate grant of relief in cases requiring spot assistance	—	—	24	159.20	15	104.89
7.	Reimbursement of fees charged by the technical institution in respect of children/dependents of Ex-servicemen undergoing training in typewriting, shorthand, book-keeping, etc.	—	—	2	44.00	22	193.00
8.	Book allowance ..	—	—	—	—	2	102.05
9.	Financial assistance for the purchase of spectacles, etc. ..	—	—	—	—	5	135.65
10.	Financial assistance for funeral expenses ..	—	—	—	—	1	50.00

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