



Swatantrata Sainik Samman Yojana

Why in News?

The Centre has approved the continuation of the **Swatantrata Sainik Samman Yojana (SSSY)**, under which freedom fighters and their eligible dependents are given pension and other financial benefits, till 2025-26.

What are the Key Points?

▪ Background:

- The Government of India introduced the 'Ex-Andaman Political Prisoners Pension Scheme' in 1969 to honor the freedom fighters who had been incarcerated in the Cellular Jail at Port Blair.
- In 1972, to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of Independence, **a regular scheme for grant of freedom fighters' pension was introduced.**
- Since 1980, a liberalized scheme, namely the '**Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980**' has been implemented.
- From the financial year 2017-18 onwards, the nomenclature of the Scheme has been changed as '**Swatantrata Sainik Samman Yojana**'.
- The amount of pension has been revised from time to time and Dearness Relief is also given since 2016.

▪ About the Scheme:

- The scheme provides for **a monthly Samman Pension to freedom fighters**, as a token of respect for their contribution in the national freedom struggle.
- On their demise, **pension is provided to their eligible dependents viz. spouses and thereafter, unmarried and unemployed daughters** and dependent parents, as per prescribed eligibility norms and procedure.
- It is implemented by the **Ministry of Home Affairs (Freedom Fighters Division).**
- There are 23,566 beneficiaries across the country covered under this scheme.

[Source: PIB](#)

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