

EXEMPTION OF PAYMENT OF ECHS CONTRIBUTION BY
“UNMARRIED DECEASED SOLDIERS”

1. A query has been raised by one of the ECHS Regional Centres regarding the status for exemption of payment of ECHS contribution by parents of “**Unmarried deceased soldiers**” who died while in service and are covered under Category ‘D’ or ‘E’ of Appx of ibid letter.
2. Vide their letter GOI/MOD had only exempted “war widows”, ie, wives of deceased soldiers. Cases of a “spouse/husband” of woman officer/PBOR was not covered nor were cases of “unmarried deceased soldiers”. This issue has been deliberated upon at this HQs and it is confirmed that all categories in receipt of “**liberalised family pension**” are covered.
3. The above would cover:-
 - (a) “War Widow”
 - (b) “Spouse/Husband” of a deceased woman Officer/PBOR covered by actions in category “D” or “E”.
 - (c) “Parents, ie, mother & father” of unmarried deceased soldier, provided they are in receipt of **Liberalised Family Pension**.
 - (d) In case parents at 4 (c) above are deceased, then “NOK” of unmarried deceased soldier, provided he/she are in receipt of **Liberalised Family Pension**.
4. In the case of 4 (a) & (b), dependant children of the married deceased soldier are also covered by the ECHS, subject to age/marriage and other conditions of eligibility. In case of Paras 4 (c) & (d) above, children or dependants of the individuals listed thereat are NOT entitled to ECHS eligibility, since the deceased soldier was unmarried.
5. This issue may please be given wide publicity for information of the environment.

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