

BRIEF ON HARYANA RAJYA SAINIK BOARD

Historical Background

The then govt. of India through a Resolution on 07 Sep. 1919 established the Indian Soldiers Board to advise on all questions pertaining to the interests of serving, discharged and deceased Soldiers and their dependents. It was affiliated to the Army Department of the Government.

2. Over the years expansions of the Navy and Air Force took place during World War II and therefore, a need was felt to have a single organization to undertake all functions for the three services. Thus, another Re-organisation took place in April 1944. After Independence, this was renamed as the Indian 'Soldiers and Airmens' Board and functioned under the Ministry of Defence as an inter service organization. In 1975 this Board was designated as Kendriya Sainik Board (KSB).

3. Although the welfare of Ex-servicemen and their dependents is the joint responsibility of the Central and State/Union Territories, majority of the problems have to be resolved by the respective State Governments. To assist the State Govts. Rajya Sainik Boards/ Zila Sainik Boards (RSB/ZSB) have been established for policy formulation and implementation with regard to Re-settlement and welfare of Ex-servicemen and their dependents.

4. Haryana Rajya Sainik Board (RSB) and Zila Sainik Boards (ZSBs) came into existence on bifurcation of Joint Punjab in 1966. This organization, as of now consist of the Haryana Rajya Sainik Board located at Panchkula and 19 ZSBs located at Districts HQ of the State.

Functions

5. **Rajya Sainik Board (Defence Services Welfare Department)** Secretary RSB functions directly under the Chief Secretary (Administrative Secretary) and the Chief Minister who is the Minister Incharge of the Department. His charters of duties are given below: -

- (a) Promote measures for the welfare and re-settlement of Ex-servicemen (ESM) and families of serving/deceased personnel of the Armed Forces.

- (b) Disseminate information to the general Public regarding the Armed Forces in the State and take measures to raise interest in the Armed Forces amongst the members of the general public.
- (c) Exercise control, supervise and coordinate the activities of the ZSBs in accordance with the rules and instructions prescribed by the Central and State Govt.
- (d) Interact with the Rajya Sainik Boards of the other States on the matters of mutual interest.

6. **Zila Sainik Boards (ZSBs):** The functions and responsibility of the ZSBs are given in the succeeding paras.

(a) General Functions:

- (i) Disseminate information to the general Public regarding the Armed Forces in the State and promote/maintain a feeling of good will amongst the civilians and the service personnel and ESM.
- (ii) Monitor the welfare of families of servicemen and ESM and assist them in representing their cases with the local administration or the defence authorities.
- (iii) Provide information to the general public regarding conditions of service in the Armed Forces and assist them to join the Armed Forces by approaching the appropriate Recruiting Establishments.
- (iv) To monitor the adequacy of Pension paying branches in respective districts.
- (v) Scrutinize applications for relief from various military and civil charitable funds and make suitable recommendations.
- (vi) Provide financial relief to ESM and their dependents from the fund at their disposal.

(b) Welfare Activities:

- (i) Assist in settlement of financial problems such as pension and other retirement benefits/dues to the ESM or their dependents.

- (ii) Maintain close liaison and interact with the pension disbursement authorities to ensure prompt action with regard to payment of pension and reliefs to them.
- (iii) Provide assistance for settlement of land and other disputes.
- (iv) Provide assistance to families of serving personnel with regard to their welfare.
- (v) Promote and maintain activities of welfare nature in the district like Rest House, Old Age Pensioners Home, Vocational and other training facilities etc.
- (vi) Provide assistance for medical treatment in military/civil hospitals.
- (vii) Maintain liaison and interact with other welfare organization with a view to generate additional resources for the purpose of welfare and maintain up-to-date record of war widows, dependents and disabled personnel so as to ensure their welfare.

(c) Resettlement:

- (i) Maintain constant liaison and interaction for resettlement of ESM with local, State and private Industrial Organisation.
- (ii) To sponsor eligible personnel for employment with the civil authorities and banks as per various schemes introduced from time to time.
- (iii) Provide assistance and guidance to ESM in forming and setting up cooperatives Societies for self-employment.
- (iv) Provide re-settlement assistance to War widows/dependents and disabled personnel or those who die in service due to attributable reasons.
- (v) Organise Flag Day collections in order to raise funds for welfare activities.
- (vi) Organise rallies and re-unions of ESM from time to time.

- (vii) Explore avenues for providing educational and vocational training facilities for war widows, ESM and their dependents so as to enable them to obtain employment or set up self-employment ventures.
- (viii) Assist serving personnel in disseminating information with regard to terms and conditions of service of Armed Forces, publicity for recruitments and render assistance in times of natural calamities.

Organisations

7. RSB

