Grievances of Paramilitary Forces

Why in news?

Old age pension is not given to paramilitary personnel who died in Pulwama attack.

What is a paramilitary force?

- A semi-militarized force whose organizational structure, tactics, training, subculture, and (often) functions are similar to those of a professional military but which is not included as part of a state's formal armed forces.
- Though paramilitary is not a military force, it is usually like military's light infantry force in terms of training, and organizational structure.

What are the functions of the paramilitary force?

- All the paramilitary forces comes under Ministry of Home Affairs.

Paramilitary Forces	Year	Functions
The Assam Rifles	1835	Assam rifles contribute in maintaining of law and order, countering insurgency.
The Central Industrial Security Forces(CISF)	1969	CISF provides integrated security cover to public sector undertaking.
The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)	28th December 1949	CRPF shall be to enable the government to maintain Rule of Law, and Internal Security effectively.
The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) Force	24 October 1962	ITBP guards 3,488 km long India-China borders ranging from the Karakoram Pass in Ladakh to Jachep La in Arunachal Pradesh.
National Security Guard	22 September 1986	NSG has been given the specific role to handle all facets of terrorism in any part of the country
Border Security Forces	December 1 1965	To ensure the security of the borders of India and any matter related to it
Sashastra Seema Bal	March 1963	Sole objective of achieving 'Total security preparedness' in the remote border areas for performing a 'stay-behind' role in the event of a war.

- **Other forces** – Special Frontier Force (Cabinet Secretariat) and Indian Coast Guard (Ministry of Defence)

What are the various problems faced by paramilitary forces?

- Poor quality of food
- Shortage of gazetted officers (GOs) and personnel
- The old pension scheme not being provided to personnel joining service after December 31, 2003
- Lack of training and skills

What are the various measures taken by government of India?

- **Sanrakshika -** the CISF Wives Welfare Association works for the empowerment and betterment of the families of CISF personnel through various activities.
- **Centralized Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS)** - is an online platform available to the citizens 24x7
- To lodge paramilitary personnel grievances to the public authorities on any subject related to service delivery.
- **Agniveers** - To address the shortage of personnel Six para forces may recruit 2,184 ex-Agniveers every year.

What is the need of the hour?

- The government must listen to the public opinion relating to old age pension.
- Paramilitary forces needed to be treated in par with armed forces.
- The morale of these paramilitary military personnel needs to be kept high.
- The genuine grievances of India's paramilitary forces need to be addressed

References

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5. The National Security Guard
6. The Central Reserve Police Force
7. Border Security Force
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