Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme

Why in News?

Recently, Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme has been revised.

- **Launched on** – 15 August ***1972***.
- **Aim** – To provide for grant of ***pension to living freedom fighters or their (as of the martyrs) eligible dependents***.
- **Nodal Ministry** – *Ministry of Home Affairs.*
- **New changes** – The *existing dearness relief system* based on All India Consumer Price Index for Industrial workers, which was hitherto applied to freedom fighters pension on annual basis has been *discontinued and replaced by dearness*

  Dearness allowance *is a cost of living adjustment that the Government pays to public sector employees and pensioners. It is calculated as a percentage of the basic salary to curb the effect of inflation.*

- **Eligibility** – A person who had suffered a *minimum imprisonment of 6 months* in the mainland jails before Independence.
  - A person who remained *underground for more than 6 months*.
  - A person interned in his home or externed from his district, provided the period was 6 months or more.
  - A person whose property was attached and sold due to participation in the freedom struggle.
  - A person who became *permanently incapacitated* during firing or lathi charge.
  - A person who *lost his job in Central or State Government* by means participation in the national movement.
- **Benefits** – It extended to all the freedom fighters,

Category	Benefits
Freedom Fighters/Spouse/one companion	Free life time railway passes to travel by any train.
Freedom fighters/eligible dependents	Free medical facilities run by Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs).
Freedom fighters/eligible dependents/one companion	Free transit stay at State Bhawan.
Freedom fighters	Collectors directed to regular enquire about the well-being.

Steps to streamline the application and disbursement process



References

1. PIB| Revision of Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme
2. My Scheme| Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme

