



RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
RAJYA SABHA

Member of Standing Committee on Information Technology
Member of Consultative Committee on Finance
Member of Parliamentary Forum on Youth
Co-Chairman, Vigilance & Monitoring Committee, Bangalore Urban District

Dear Shri Antony

25 February, 2011

I draw your attention to the grievances of the recipients of Sena/Nao Sena/ Vayu Sena Medals for Gallantry of the personnel of our Armed forces. I understand that the recipients of these prestigious awards are eligible for monetary compensation along with certain other facilities and concessions. But whereas the recipients of the Police Medal for Gallantry continue to get travel concessions in Indian Railways and Air India, the recipients of Medals for Gallantry in our Armed Forces are not getting these concessions at all. Additionally, the recipients of the Police Medals are also getting higher monetary compensation as compared to the recipients of Medals of Gallantry in our Armed forces.

This glaring discrimination persists despite the fact the Sena/Nao Sena/ Vayu Sena Medals for Gallantry ranks two places above Police Medals for Gallantry in the table of precedence of wearing medals and decorations promulgated by the Cabinet Secretariat of the Government of India. These grievances have demoralizing effects on the recipients of Medals for Gallantry in our Armed forces as they feel that they have been let down by the government. I feel that the grievances are genuine and need to be addressed on a priority basis to boost the morale of the recipients of Medals for Gallantry in our Armed Forces.

I, therefore, urge you to look into the matter and ensure that monetary compensation issue is settled by your Ministry appropriately at the earliest and also take up the travel concession issue with your counterparts in the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Railways to ensure that the recipients of Sena/ Nao Sena/Vayu Sena Medals for gallantry do get the similar concessions and facilities - at least at par with the recipients of Police Medals for Gallantry. This will go a long way in boosting the moral of the recipients of Medals for Gallantry in our Armed Forces.

Yours sincerely,

Rajeev
RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR

Shri A. K. Antony
Hon'ble Minister of Defence
Government of India
New Delhi