



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

24 February, 2011

Dear Shri Antony,

As you are aware, our Armed Forces personnel defend the nation, fighting enemies, terrorism and other security challenges, and in the line of duty, suffer grievous permanent injuries. It our duty as a nation to take proper care and rehabilitate such disabled soldiers, so that they can lead the rest of their lives with dignity and honour, and without financial worries.

However, this does not seem to be the case, and my attention was drawn to an article that appeared in *The Week* magazine (enclosed for your reference) that mentions that more than 30,000 disabled soldiers are waiting for proper rehabilitation and have been victims of red tape and apathy. These include soldiers who have fought for the nation in the Kargil war, were part of the IPKF in Sri Lanka and the low intensity war on the LoC border.

It is distressing that these heroes are neglected by the Government, left to fend for themselves and have to be dependent on contributions from individuals and NGOs for their survival. Such neglect is tragic and certainly does not augur well for the nation.

I urge you to immediately study the plight of the disabled soldiers, get a report on their rehabilitation and ensure that these heroes are treated with the dignity and respect which they truly deserve and adequate financial support is extended to them.

Yours Sincerely,

RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR

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