



Amenities for Members of Parliament



Lok Sabha Secretariat
New Delhi

Amenities for Members of Parliament

After election to Parliament, the Members become entitled to certain amenities. These amenities are provided to Members with a view to enabling them to function effectively as Members of Parliament.

Broadly speaking, the amenities provided to the Members relate to salaries and allowances, travelling facilities, medical facilities, accommodation, telephones, etc. These are governed by the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954 and the rules made thereunder.

Salary and Daily Allowance

With the commencement of the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Act, 2010, the amount of salary has been increased from rupees sixteen thousand to rupees fifty thousand per mensem during the term of office *w.e.f.* 18 May, 2009. Similarly, the amount of daily allowance has been increased from rupees one thousand to rupees two thousand *w.e.f.* 1 October, 2010 for each day of residence on duty at a place where a session of a House of Parliament or a sitting of a Committee thereof is held.

Provided that no Member shall be entitled to the aforesaid allowance unless she/he signs the register maintained by Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha Secretariat for this purpose.

A Member is also entitled to daily allowance for a period of such residence, not exceeding three days immediately preceding or succeeding the session of the House and not exceeding two days preceding or succeeding the sitting of a Committee, or for the purpose of attending to any other business connected with their duties as Member of Parliament.

Constituency Allowance

A Member is entitled to receive constituency allowance at the rate of rupees forty-five thousand per mensem.

Office Expense Allowance

Every Member is entitled to office expense allowance @ Rs. 45,000 per month out of which Rs. 15,000 shall be for meeting expenses on stationery items and postage and Rs. 30,000 is paid by the Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha Secretariats

direct to the person(s) as may be engaged by a Member for obtaining secretarial assistance, provided that one such person must be computer literate as certified by the Member.

Travelling Allowance/Travel Facilities

A Member is entitled to the following travelling allowances for the journey performed for attending a session of the House or a sitting of a Committee or for the purpose of attending to any other business connected with duties as a Member from usual place of residence to the place where the above-mentioned business is transacted and for return journey from such place to their usual place of residence:

- (a) If the journey is performed by rail, an amount equal to one first class fare plus one second class fare, irrespective of the class in which the Member actually travels.
- (b) If the journey is performed by air, an amount equal to one and one-fourth of the air fare for each such journey.
- (c) If the journey or any part thereof cannot be performed by rail or air—
 - (i) Where the journey or any part thereof is performed by steamer an amount equal to one and three-fifths of the fare (without diet) for the highest class in the steamer.
 - (ii) Where the journey or any part thereof is performed by road, road mileage at the rate of rupees sixteen per kilometre.

Provided that where a Member performs journey by road in Delhi from and to an aerodrome, the Member shall be paid a minimum amount of three hundred and twenty rupees for each such journey.

A Member is entitled to receive road mileage for the journey performed by road between the places not connected with superfast/express/mail train. However Members belonging to the North-Eastern States are entitled to road mileage from the usual place of residence to the nearest airport even if the places are connected by superfast/express/mail train. Similarly, a Member whose usual place of residence is within the radius of 300 kms. from Delhi is entitled to

receive road mileage for the journey performed by road even if the place is connected with superfast/express/mail train.

For the purpose of claiming travelling allowance for attending a session of Parliament or a sitting of a Committee, Members are required to travel only after the issue of Summons for attending a session or after the issue of notice of meeting for attending the meeting of a Committee. If, during a session of the House or a sitting of a Committee thereof, Members absent themselves for less than 15 days for visiting any place in India, they are entitled to receive the following travelling allowance:

- (a) If the journey is performed by rail, an amount equal to one first class fare of each such journey, irrespective of the class in which the Member actually travels.

The travelling allowance admissible in respect of such journey is limited to the total amount of daily allowances which would have been admissible to such Member for the days of absence if they had not so remained absent.

- (b) If the journey being a journey during a sitting of a Committee is performed by air, an amount equal to one fare by air for each such journey but not more than once for visiting any place in India.

When a House of Parliament is adjourned for a fixed period during the Budget Session, a Member is entitled to receive travelling allowance for every journey performed by air for visiting any place in India during the interval not exceeding five days between two sittings of a Departmentally Related Standing Committee. But the total amount of travelling allowance, excluding air fare, is restricted to the amount of daily allowance which would have been admissible for the days of absence if they had not remained absent.

Every Member has been given the facility of 34 single air journeys during a year to be availed of during session/inter-session period with the spouse or any number of companions or relatives. The spouse/companion of a Member may travel alone by air eight times to meet the

Member out of the 34 air journeys available to a Member in a year. The newly elected Member may also avail of the journey before the publication of Notification by the Election Commission. Any journey performed by the spouse, companions or relatives shall be added in computing the limit of 34 air journeys. Further, the balance of unused air journeys shall be carried over to the following year. A Member who performs air journey out of 34 air journeys to their usual place of residence or any place situated within their constituency during session period would be entitled to claim to and fro TA by air upto the airport nearest thereto and also TA for rail/road journeys, if any, beyond the airport. Members performing a journey by air out of 34 air journeys to any place other than the usual place of residence or any place situated within their constituency during session period would be entitled to only to and fro TA by air only upto the farthest point travelled by the direct route and also TA for the road mileage at Delhi and at the city of the said farthest point travelled by air, from and to airport to city at both places.

A Member performing a journey by air out of 34 air journeys during inter-session period for visiting any place in India would be entitled to only to and fro TA by air from and to airport to city at both places.

Every Member who has ordinary place of residence in the Ladakh area of the State of Jammu and Kashmir is entitled to an amount equal to the fare by air for each single journey by air performed from any airport in Ladakh to the airport in Delhi and back at any time. In addition to the air travel provided to a Member, they are also entitled to an amount equal to the fare by air for each single journey by air performed by the spouse, if any, of the Member or one person to accompany such Member from any airport in Ladakh area to the airport in Delhi and back at any time.

Rail Travel Facilities

Every Member is provided with—

- (a) One free non-transferable first class air-conditioned or executive class of any train pass which entitles the Member to travel with spouse at any time by any railway in India;

- (b) One free non-transferable air-conditioned two-tier railway pass for one person to accompany the Member when the Member travels by rail;
- (c) Where during any part of a year the usual place of residence is inaccessible by rail, steamer or road, due to climatic conditions and where air service is available, a Member is entitled to travel by air to and from usual place of residence upto the nearest airport outside constituency having rail service.

The spouse of every Member is entitled to—

- (a) One free non-transferable railway pass to travel in first class air-conditioned or executive class in any train, and if travelled by air, an amount equal to the air fare, from the usual place of residence of a Member to Delhi and back once during every session and twice in Budget Session but not exceeding 8 single journeys in a year. The spouse can travel from the usual place of residence of the Member to Delhi at any time after the issue of Summons and can return any day before the commencement of the next session.
- (b) The spouse is also entitled to travel in first class air-conditioned or executive class in all the trains with the Member from any place in India to any other place in India. Members having no spouse are entitled to be accompanied by any other person in lieu of spouse in any train in first class AC or executive class from any place in India to any other place in India in addition to the facility available to them in respect of one companion in AC-II tier. The spouse of the Member is allowed road mileage for the journey or part thereof performed by road if unaccompanied by the Member while travelling in train.

Steamer Pass

A Member representing the Union territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the Union

territory of Lakshadweep is provided with one free non-transferable pass to travel in the highest class of Steamer (excluding diet charges) to and fro any part of the constituency and any other part of their constituency or the nearest port in the mainland of India. Such pass is valid for the term of office and on the expiration of the term, the pass is required to be surrendered to the Lok Sabha Secretariat.

Members representing these Islands can also use the pass before taking their seat in the House, to utilise the same for the purpose of attending a session of the House for taking their seat therein.

Where Members have not been provided with such a pass they will be entitled to receive an amount equal to one fare (without diet) for the highest class by steamer for any journey referred to above.

Members are entitled to an amount equal to the fare by air from their usual place of residence to the nearest airport in the mainland of India and back.

Companion or spouse of the Member representing the Union territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands or the Union territory of Lakshadweep is entitled to travel by the highest class (without diet) by steamer between the Island and mainland of India on the authority of the steamer pass issued to the spouse or companion of the Member accompanying the Member.

Members are entitled to an amount equal to the fare by air, for the spouse, if any, of the Member, or for one person to accompany them from the usual place of residence in the Island to the nearest airport of the mainland of India and back.

Accommodation

In order to meet adequately the needs of Members for residential accommodation a separate pool of residences for Members has been established and allotment of residences to Members from this pool is made by the Accommodation Sub-Committee of the House Committee, Lok Sabha. Arrangements for accommodation are made according to the criteria laid down by the House Committee.

Members are entitled to a licence-fee free flat or hostel accommodation throughout their term of office. Where the Members are allotted housing accommodation in the form of a bungalow at their request, they shall pay full normal licence-fee, if they are entitled to such accommodation.

Members are entitled without payment of charges to the supply of water upto 4000 kl. per annum and electricity upto 50,000 units (25,000 units measures on light meter and 25,000 units on power meter or pooled together) per annum beginning from 1st of January every year in respect of residence allotted to them in Delhi. The above facilities are extended to the Members residing in a private accommodation in Delhi. The unutilized units of electricity and water in kilolitres are carried over to subsequent years and any excess consumption of electricity and water units in a particular year are adjusted from the units of electricity and water in kilolitres available to them for the next year.

Other facilities enjoyed by the Members include washing of sofa covers and curtains every three months; furniture within the monetary ceiling of Rs. 60,000 in respect of durable furniture and Rs. 15,000 for non-durable furniture; and also 25 per cent remission in the rents on account of any improvement or addition made to it or any additional service provided thereto by way of furniture, electrical equipment and other services.

Members of Lok Sabha or their families can retain Government Accommodation for a maximum period of one month after their retirement, resignation/removal or ceasing to be a Member of Lok Sabha on payment of the same rent, if any, which they were paying immediately before the occurrence of any of the events mentioned above.

The family of a deceased Member of Parliament may retain Government accommodation for a maximum period of six months from the date of death of such a Member.

Telephone Facilities

No charges shall be payable by a Member in respect of the installation and rental of one telephone installed either at her/his residence

or at her/his office in Delhi or New Delhi, and no Member shall be liable to make any payment in respect of the first 50,000 local calls made from the telephone during any year. However, Chairpersons of Parliamentary Committees are exempted from payment of any charges for local calls made from the telephone installed at their residences in Delhi/New Delhi.

In addition to above, no charges shall be payable by a Member in respect of the installation and rental of one telephone installed either at their usual place of residence, or a place selected by them being a place— (i) situated within the State which they represents, or within the State in which they reside in the case of Member of the Council of States other than a member nominated to that House; (ii) situated within the State in which their constituency is or within the State in which they reside in the case of a Member of the House of the People, other than a Member nominated to that House; and (iii) approved by the Chairperson of the Council of States or the Speaker of the House of the People, as the case may be, in the case of nominated Members.

No Member shall be liable to make any payment in respect of the first 50,000 local calls made from that telephone during any year.

Provided that the place selected by the Member or approved by the Chairperson or the Speaker, as the case may be, shall be within the area of operation of an existing telephone exchange.

Members are also entitled to one additional telephone either at their residence in Delhi/ New Delhi or at their usual place of residence or at the place selected by them within the State in which their constituency is or in the State in which they reside and 50,000 free local calls during a year.

A Member may use any number of telephones for availing the above-mentioned 1,50,000 free local calls subject to the condition that the telephones are in the name of Member and the installation and rental charges of additional telephones are borne by the Member herself/ himself.

The trunk call bills of the Members may be adjusted within the monetary equivalent of the ceiling of one lakh fifty thousand local calls per annum as aforesaid.

Further, every Member is entitled to one mobile phone of MTNL, New Delhi and another mobile connection of MTNL/BSNL or any private mobile operator, in case MTNL/BSNL services are not available, with national roaming facility for utilization in constituency with the adjustment of calls from the existing 1,50,000 local calls available to them for 3 telephones. However, registration and rental charges for private mobile connection are borne by the Member.

Excess telephone calls made over and above the pooled total of one lakh fifty thousand free local calls per annum in respect of the three telephones installed under sub-rule (1), sub-rule (3) and sub-rule (5) of Rule 4 of the Housing and Telephone Facilities (Members of Parliament) Rules, 1956 are adjusted against the one lakh fifty thousand free local calls allowed on the three telephones for the next year.

A Member is also entitled to avail broadband facility from MTNL/BSNL on any one of the above-mentioned three telephones subject to the condition that the Government may pay upto Rs. 1,500 per month towards the charges of this facility directly to MTNL/BSNL.

Medical facilities

Under the Central Government Health Scheme as extended to Members, Members and their families are entitled to free medical treatment on a monthly contribution of Rs. 500. Dispensaries for providing treatment mainly to Members exist in the North Avenue, South Avenue, Telegraph Lane, Pandara Road, Dr. Zakir Hussain Road, Constitution Club and First Aid Post in V.P. House. A First Aid Post in Parliament House and a Medical Centre in Parliament House Annexe are also functioning for rendering medical aid to Members in cases of emergency or sudden illness.

Members are entitled to same medical facilities as are available to the officers of Central Civil Services, Class-I under the Central Government Health Scheme.

Advance for the purchase of conveyance

A Member is entitled to an advance not exceeding rupees four lakh or the actual price of the conveyance intended to be purchased, whichever is less. However, no advance is admissible when a conveyance has already been purchased and paid for in full.

Recovery of the said advance together with interest thereon as applicable on loan to government servants shall be made from the salary bill of the Member concerned in not more than sixty equal monthly instalments, which shall not extend beyond the tenure of their membership.

Facilities to Members of pre-maturely dissolved Lok Sabha

If a Lok Sabha is dissolved pre-maturely, the Members of the dissolved Lok Sabha are entitled to consume the unutilised telephone calls, electricity units and water units from the date of dissolution of the Lok Sabha to the constitution of the subsequent Lok Sabha.

FACILITIES TO EX-MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

Pensionary Benefits

Every person who has served as a Member of the Provisional Parliament or either House of Parliament for any period is entitled to a pension of rupees twenty thousand per mensem. Provided further that where any person has served for a period exceeding five years, she/he shall be paid an additional pension of rupees fifteen hundred per mensem for every year in excess of five years. For the purpose of calculation of years for determination of additional pension, the period of nine months or more shall be treated as one complete year.

Family Pension to Spouse/Dependant

The spouse/dependant of a deceased Member/ Ex-Member is entitled to receive family pension equal to 50% pension otherwise admissible to the deceased Member at the time of death for the remainder period of life of the spouse. The dependant will get family pension subject to fulfilment of conditions as stipulated in section (2) (aa) of MSA Act. The spouse/ dependant of those deceased ex-MPs who had

served either House of Parliament prior to 15 September, 2006 shall also be entitled to family pension on the same terms and conditions as are applicable to spouse/dependant of a deceased Member of Parliament.

If spouse/dependant is entitled to any pension under MSA Act, she/he will not be entitled to receive family pension.

No person shall be entitled to claim arrears of family pension for the period prior to 15 September, 2006.

Free Rail Travel Facility

Under Section 8AA of the MSA Act, an ex-Member of Parliament is entitled to travel in any train in AC-II tier class alongwith a companion or in AC-I class, if travels alone, on the strength of ex-MP Identity Card issued by Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha Secretariat.

Free Steamer Facility

A former Member of Parliament who had represented Andaman and Nicobar Islands or Lakshadweep is entitled to travel by highest class of accommodation in any steamer sailing between A&N or Lakshadweep, as the case may be, and from Island to mainland in India on the strength of authorization issued to this effect by Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha Secretariat.

Medical Facilities

Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) is applicable to ex-Members of Parliament residing in cities covered by CGHS on payment of contribution at the same rate as they were paying as Members of Parliament. This facility is obtained by an ex-MP direct from Director-General (CGHS), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi.

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

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**Cover Photo: A View of Parliament House*