

Questionnaire on the Rehabilitation of war widows - Hari Mehta

Financial Rehabilitation

1. What were the relief measures undertaken immediately after the tragedy.
2. What emoluments did you get by way of pay, pension, gratuity, bounty, ex-gratia payments, awards etc.
3. What other benefits, concessions were granted by State Governments?
4. What assistance, if any was given by voluntary organisations
5. What other concessions have been given to your children, if any and next of kin
6. Have you received any land, cash in lieu, plots, houses, gas agencies etc.
7. Have any institutions given concessions to your children and to what extent.
8. Have you been given any loans, if so at what interests and by whom?
9. Has there been any increase or decrease in your pension emoluments etc. and if so, to what extent?
10. Have any of these pensionary benefits, concessions etc. been divided between you and the other next of kin, including your in-laws?
11. Have you been extended any medical, legal, postal, ration, mess, canteen and rail facilities as hithertofore
12. Have you learnt any new trades, specialization courses etc.
13. Has any reservation been made for you or your children in government or private posts
14. Has this help been continuous, occasional or rare
15. Is any liaison kept with you by the government/voluntary organisations
16. Are there any bottlenecks, delays, harassments or exploitation by middlemen?
17. Are these relief measures adequate?
18. Is the attitude of help same as before or is it wanning with time?
19. Have you been able to stand on your own feet and be self sufficient with or without such help?
20. Has re-marriage, if at all, made any change in the pension and other benefits?
21. Has the provision of monetary aid led to any friction, litigation with your in-laws or the next of kin?
22. Have you been benefitted by pilot projects/training centres and if so in what way?

23. Have you any liabilities, debts problems etc. which have increased after the tragedy and which you find difficult to get over?
24. If you have any additional assets of your own, have they stood in the way of help from Government/others
25. Financially are you better off, lame or worse off than before?
26. What would you suggest to improve upon the ways and means to help you?
27. Can we say you have been financially rehabilitated?
28. Who has been most helpful to you?

Social Rehabilitation

1. Name of your husband, rank, services, age at death
2. What was that supreme act of sacrifice which brought martyrdom to your husband
3. How and when did you get the first and what were your immediate reaction
4. How long were you married and how many children if any, you had at the time of the tragedy
5. What was your level of education then and did you have to go in for studies thereafter
6. Were you a working woman before? If you are one now, how do you find the change
7. Has a difference been noticeable in the attitude of people around and if so in what manner?
8. Were you expected to wear white, discard cosmetics and avoid parties etc. and has any discrimination made against you in society, families etc.
9. What has been the attitude of your family including parents and in-laws
10. Did the tragedy lead to any unpleasantness, friction, litigation?
11. Are you living independently or with your relations and for what reason?
12. Are your new environments, new relationships if any, same, worse or better than before
13. Has the tragedy led to any division of property, separation from family or any other such eventuality.
14. Has your mother or father in law if dependent, been given any help from any source?

15. Have you been able to maintain the same standard of living
16. What are the ages of your children, if any
17. Have they been less disciplined than before or has the tragedy disturbed them emotionally or otherwise
18. If you have any daughters of marriageable age, have they posed any problem for you?
19. Did you get any proposals for marriage, if so, was their standard same, higher or lower than before and what has been your reaction
20. If you are ~~xxxxxxx~~ remarried, do you find the change better than before
21. Do you like to keep all the links with the past or would you like to forget about them all
22. Being a hero's wife have you been able to write or record about your tragedy or perpetuate his memory in some way or the other
23. Has your faith in human values, in religion been shaken or fortified after the tragedy
24. Why do you think should you be given preferential treatment in comparison to other army widows?
25. Do you blame anyone for the tragedy?
26. Do you believe in the futility of wars to solve the human problem
27. Would you like your children, if any, to join the Defence Services
28. Has your tragic situation been exploited by undesirable individuals or organisations.
29. Have you been emotionally rehabilitated?
30. Can you suggest any ways and means by which things can be improved to better your lot, socially, emotionally?

