



Bihar Government Doubles Pension for JP Senanis | Bihar | 14 Aug 2025

Why in News?

The Bihar government has announced an increase in the pension for [Jayaprakash \(JP\) Movement fighters \(JP Senanis\)](#), who were **imprisoned during the Emergency (1975-77)** for supporting socialist leader **Jayaprakash Narayan's movement (1974)**.

- CM Nitish Kumar emphasized that the initiative was taken to honor the contributions of these fighters and their role in Bihar's development.

Note: 5th June 2025 marks the 51st anniversary of [Jayaprakash Narayan's](#) call for **Sampoorna Kranti (Total Revolution)**, also known as the **JP Movement**, which was launched on 5th June 1974 by Jayaprakash Narayan at Gandhi Maidan, Patna.

Key Points

- **Pension Increase:** Fighters who were **imprisoned for more than six months** will now receive a **pension of ₹30,000 per month, up from ₹15,000**.
- Those who were **jailed for up to six months** will see their pension **increase from ₹7,500 to ₹15,000 per month**.
- In the **event of the pensioner's death**, their **surviving spouse** will also **receive the same pension amount**.

Key Points About JP Senani Samman Pension Scheme

- **Scheme:** This adjustment falls under the "**JP Senani Samman Pension Scheme**", which was initiated by Chief Minister Nitish Kumar in 2009.
 - The **scheme is named after the iconic socialist leader, Loknayak Jayaprakash Narayan**.
- **Beneficiaries:** Currently (2025), **3,354 individuals in Bihar are receiving this pension**, while **CM Nitish Kumar, despite being eligible, has never availed** of it.
 - The notable beneficiaries of the scheme are **Lalu Prasad Yadav** (ex-chief minister of Bihar) and **Sushil Kumar Modi** (former Deputy CM of Bihar).
- **Eligibility Conditions:**
 - **Period of Participation:** 18th March 1974- 21st March 1977.
 - Beneficiaries must have been imprisoned under the **Maintenance of Internal Security Act (MISA)** or **Defence of India Rules (DIR)**.
- **Duration Categories:**
 - **Category 1:** 1 to 6 months of imprisonment.
 - **Category 2:** Imprisonment exceeding 6 months.
- **Additional Benefits:** Eligible individuals receive free medical care equivalent to that provided to freedom fighters.

Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme

- The **Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme** was launched in **1972** as the **Freedom**

Fighters Pension Scheme and was later renamed and liberalized in **August 1980**.

- Administered by the **Union Ministry of Home Affairs**, Government of India, it provides financial support to the freedom fighters who participated in India's independence struggle.
- **Total Beneficiaries (Ever):** 171,689 freedom fighters and their dependents.
- **Current Active Pensioners (as of July 2025):** 13,212 living freedom fighters.
- **Widows Receiving Pension:** 9,778.
- **Annual Budget (2024-25):** ₹600 crore.
- **Coverage:**
 - **Time Period:** Freedom fighters who participated in movements between **1857 and 1947**.
 - **Recognized Movements:** Includes **40 major movements**, such as the [Quit India Movement](#), [Jallianwala Bagh](#), and others.

PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtiias.com/statepcs/15-08-2025/bihar/print>

