

No. 359/XXXVI(3)/2025/47(1)/2025  
Dated Dehradun, September 22, 2025

NOTIFICATION

Miscellaneous

In pursuance of the provisions of Clause (3) of Article 348 of the Constitution of India, the Governor is pleased to order the publication of the following English translation of **The Uttarakhand Democracy Fighters Honour Act, 2025 (Act No. 16 of 2025)**.

As passed by the Uttarakhand Legislative Assembly and assented to by the Governor on 18 September, 2025.

**The Uttarakhand Democracy Fighters Honour Act, 2025**

[Uttarakhand Act No. 16 of the year, 2025]

An

Act

to provide for the grant of "Democracy Fighter Honour Amount" to the Democracy Fighters who actively participated in the defence of democracy during the Emergency period (from the 25th day of June, 1975 to the 21st day of March, 1977) and, as a consequence of such participation, were detained under the Maintenance of Internal Security Act, 1971 {Act No. 26 of 1971 (Repealed)}/ the Defence of India Rules, 1971 (Repealed) and to provide for free travel facility within the State in the buses of the Uttarakhand Transport Corporation; to provide for free medical facilities in Government Hospitals and under the "Ayushman Bharat Scheme" by the State empanelled hospitals; and to make provisions for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto;

Be it enacted by the Uttarakhand State Legislature in the Seventy-sixth Year of the Republic of India as follows:

- |   |    |   |
|---|----|---|
| <b>Short title, extent and commencement</b> | 1. | (1) This Act may be called the Uttarakhand Democracy Fighters Honour Act, 2025.<br>(2) It shall extend to the whole of the State of Uttarakhand.<br>(3) It shall come into force at once. |
| <b>Definitions</b>                          | 2. | In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—<br>(a) "Democracy Fighter" means a permanent resident of Uttarakhand who actively participated in the movement for                    |

protection of democracy during the Emergency period, namely from the 25th day of June, 1975 to the 21st day of March, 1977, and who, on account of such participation, was detained for a period exceeding one month at any time during the 25th day of June, 1975 to the 21st day of March, 1977 period under Maintenance of Internal Security Act, 1971 (Repealed) / the Defence of India Rules, 1971 (Repealed) on political grounds;

(b) "Free Medical Facility" means the facility provided in Government Hospitals and, in respect of private hospitals, refers to the facility provided under the Ayushman Bharat Scheme by the State empanelled hospitals;

(c) "Free Transport Facility" means free travel within the State in the buses of the Uttarakhand Transport Corporation;

(d) "Democracy Fighter Honour Amount" means such amount of money as may be determined from time to time by the State Government, payable to a Democracy Fighter or his widow or her widower;

(e) "Political Punishment" means the sections imposed under the Maintenance of Internal Security Act, 1971 (Repealed) / the Defence of India Rules, 1971 (Repealed) during the period from 25-06-1975 to 21-03-1977 due to political opposition to the emergency.

*Non  
Applicability of  
Act on certain  
person*

3. The provisions of this Act shall not apply to—

(1) Persons detained in prison on grounds other than political grounds;

(2) Persons who, for the purpose of obtaining the Democracy Fighter Honour Amount or other facilities for themselves or for any other person, have submitted false particulars, information or certificates.

*Authority for  
sanctioning  
Democracy  
Fighter Honour  
Amount*

4. (1) The Democracy Fighter Honour Amount under this Act shall be sanctioned by the Government level on the recommendation of the District Magistrate concerned, in the form prescribed in Schedule "A", and the last date for identification of applicants for this purpose shall be one year from the date of commencement of this Act.

(2) The Democracy Fighter Honour Amount shall be sanctioned by the Government level from the date of

application by the applicant and subsequent action regarding payment will be taken by the District Magistrate of the concerned district, except in the case of applicants under section 6(1).

- (3) (i) The Democracy Fighter must be a permanent resident of Uttarakhand and must have been detained under Maintenance of Internal Security Act, 1971 (Repealed) / the Defence of India Rules, 1971 (Repealed) in any jail in the country during the Emergency period from the 25th day of June, 1975 to the 21st day of March, 1977. A certificate to this effect issued by the Superintendent of the concerned prison shall be mandatory, and shall be verified by the District Magistrate;
- (ii) Where records are not available or have been destroyed, the District Magistrate, upon necessary verification, may satisfy himself on the basis of other relevant records that the applicant had been booked under relevant provisions of Maintenance of Internal Security Act, 1971 (Repealed) / the Defence of India Rules, 1971 (Repealed) during the said period for opposing the Emergency, and that his arrest/detention is confirmed;
- (iii) Where charges under laws other than Maintenance of Internal Security Act, 1971 (Repealed) / the Defence of India Rules, 1971 (Repealed) were also invoked, the District Magistrate shall satisfy himself that such charges arose in connection with the struggle against the Emergency and not for reasons unconnected with political causes;
- (iv) Where an applicant applies from more than one district, the District Magistrate shall obtain from him an affidavit stating that he has applied from only one district within Uttarakhand and has not applied in any other State;
- (v) On submission of an application by a Democracy Fighter or his widow/widower and consequent sanction of the Democracy Fighter Honour Amount, payment shall be made in accordance with prevailing, relevant and periodically issued Government Orders;
- (vi) The identified Democracy Fighter or his widow/widower who are receiving "Democracy Fighter Honour Pension" before the enactment of this act, will continue to receive "Democracy Fighter Honour Pension" as before which will now be called "Democracy Fighter Honour Amount" after the enactment of this act;

(4) The Democracy Fighter or his widow/widower shall be entitled, along with one companion, to free travel within the State in the buses of the Uttarakhand Transport Corporation;

(5) The Medical Department of the State Government shall provide free medical facilities to the Democracy Fighter or his widow/widower in Government Hospitals and under the "Ayushman Bharat Scheme" by the State empanelled hospitals;

(6) The concerned District Magistrate shall submit the bill for withdrawal of payable amount to the concerned Treasury along with the name, savings bank account number, name of the bank, and bank-wise details of the amounts payable to the recipients, in accordance with prevailing Government/Executive Orders. The Treasury shall directly credit the Democracy Fighter Honour Amount to the bank accounts of the recipients. No advance payment shall be made in any case;

(7) All records relating to the Democracy Fighter Honour Amount and other facilities shall be preserved and audited as per relevant rules.

*Cancellation of  
Democracy  
Fighter Honour  
Amount*

5. The Democracy Fighter Honour Amount and other facilities sanctioned under this Act may be withdrawn at any time, without assigning any reason and without notice, on the following grounds or for any other cause—

- (i) Conviction for an offence involving moral turpitude or participation in anti-national activities;
- (ii) Conviction for any offence other than a political offence;
- (iii) Receipt of Democracy Fighter Honour Amount despite ineligibility under section 3;
- (iv) Submission of false information or a false affidavit.

*Process in case  
of death of  
Democracy  
Fighter*

6. (1) Upon the death of a Democracy Fighter receiving the Democracy Fighter Honour Amount, the same shall be sanctioned to his widow or her widower with effect from the day following the date of death.

(2) Where the Democracy Fighter dies before receiving the Democracy Fighter Honour Amount and his dependent widow/widower applies for the Democracy Fighter honour amount, payment shall be made from the date of application.

(3) In the event of the death of any Democracy Fighter, his cremation shall be conducted with State honours.

*Manner of  
application for  
Democracy  
Fighter Honour  
Amount*

7. (1) An application for the Democracy Fighter Honour Amount under this Act shall be submitted to the District Magistrate in the form prescribed in Schedule "A".

(2) The application shall be accompanied by a certificate from the concerned Jail Superintendent in support of detention.

(3) The State Government may, if necessary, cause an inquiry into any application.

*Recovery of  
Democracy  
Fighter Honour  
Amount*

8. (1) In the event of withdrawal of the Democracy Fighter Honour Amount under section 5, recovery thereof shall be made as arrears of land revenue.

(2) In the event of any error in recommendation for sanction of Democracy Fighter Honour Amount, the District Magistrate shall cause an inquiry and fix responsibility.

*Power to make  
rules*

9. The State Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, make rules and issue executive orders for carrying out the purposes of this Act.

*Power to  
remove  
difficulties*

10. (1) If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this Act, the State Government may, by order published in the Official Gazette, give such directions as may appear necessary or expedient for the purpose of removing such difficulty, and the provisions of this Act shall have effect subject to such adaptations, whether by way of modification, addition or omission, as may be so specified.

(2) No order under sub-section (1) shall be made after the expiry of two years from the commencement of this Act.

By Order,

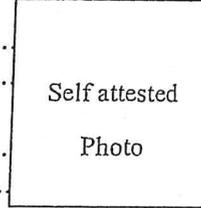
DHANANJAY CHATURVEDI,  
Principal Secretary.

## SCHEDULE "A"

(See section 4(1))

*Form of Application for Democracy Fighter Honour Amount*Format for Application

1. Name of the Applicant: .....
2. Name of Father/Husband/Wife: .....
3. Full Address: Permanent Address:  
.....
4. Whether the applicant is a resident of Uttarakhand .....
5. Period of detention in jail: .....  
(Date of detention and date of release) .....
6. Place of detention and name of the district where located: .....
7. Details of the activities for which detained: .....  
(This certificate shall be in addition to the jail certificate and shall be mandatorily attached.)
8. Act and sections under which detained in jail: .....
9. Attested copies of documents relating to detention:.....
10. Evidence in support of the particulars given at item number 7:  
.....



*(This certificate shall be given by two Democracy Fighters who have already been sanctioned the Democracy Fighter Honour Amount or who had been co-prisoners with the applicant, specifying the period of imprisonment suffered for political reasons during the Emergency period.)*

Affidavit by the Applicant

I, hereby, do solemnly affirm that the particulars given above are true and correct in all respects. Should any particulars be found false, the Government shall have the right to cancel my Democracy Fighter Honour Amount and recover the same as arrears of land revenue.

Signature of the Applicant: .....

Certificate

No.: .....

It is hereby certified that the particulars given above have been verified by me and have been found to be correct.

District Magistrate  
(Seal)

Note:

(1)

(2)

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

During the Emergency period (from the 25th day of June, 1975 to the 21st day of March, 1977), numerous persons struggled for the protection of democracy, resulting in its restoration. From the 14th day of June, 2017, the State of Uttarakhand has been granting a monthly "Democracy Fighter Honour Pension" to political prisoners/Democracy Fighters of Uttarakhand who, due to their active participation in defending democracy during the Emergency, were detained under the Maintenance of Internal Security Act, 1971 (Repealed) or the Defence of India Rules, 1971 (Repealed). The said "Democracy Fighter Honour Pension" is also being granted to the dependent widow or widower of such Democracy Fighters who died prior to receipt of the aforesaid pension.

It has now been decided to enact a law to provide, to such persons of Uttarakhand who actively participated in the defence of democracy during the Emergency period (from the 25th day of June, 1975 to the 21st day of March, 1977) and who, as a consequence of such participation, were detained under Maintenance of Internal Security Act, 1971 (Repealed) or the Defence of India Rules, 1971 (Repealed), the Democracy Fighter Honour Amount and other facilities.

2- The Proposed Bill fulfills the aforesaid objectives.

Pushkar Singh Dhama  
Chief Minister