



The Agneepath Scheme will Make the Indian Armed Forces Young and Influential.

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Abstract-

In this research article, the Government of India has announced the Agneepath scheme to give a short-term service opportunity to the youth in all the forces, through which the youth will be recruited in the armed forces for four years. Agneepath scheme for army recruitment in the present context Time demands. When countries like America, Russia, and China are making changes in their military system then why should India lag? For a long time, it was felt that India needed to bring down the average age of its soldiers. Now the average age is about 32 years. With the implementation of the Agneepath scheme, the appearance of all the things of the army will be more youthful. The average age of soldiers will come down to 26 years and a fine balance will be ensured between young and experienced personnel in the armed forces. Agneepath is a step in this direction. Modernization of the army has become very necessary because now the methods of warfare have changed. Now it has become mandatory for soldiers to be technically proficient and equipped with all kinds of skills. In the future, the armies will not be face to face, but water war will be fought through technology, in which the role of missiles, drones, etc. will be more. In such a situation, the defense budget should be used for the modernization of the armed forces.

Keywords: Indian Armed Forces, Agneepath scheme, Agni veer army, Army Recruitment, Retirement age, Service Fund,



**Indian Armed Forces
Agneepath scheme**



**Agni veer army
Army Recruitment**



**Retirement age
Service Fund**

1-Introduction-

The Agneepath scheme is designed to enable and empower the youth profile of the Indian Army. It will provide an opportunity for the youth who are willing to wear army uniforms. For the last 30 years, all major military powers like America, Russia, China, and Britain have reduced the number of soldiers but equipped them with state-of-the-art equipment. The reverse was happening in the Indian Army. For the modern era, the country needs a well-equipped army equipped with state-of-the-art equipment rather than a large army. It is also necessary for the security of the country that the color of danger should be young, energetic, agile, and ready to play with danger. In the last decade, the Indian Army has felt the need to fight a war on two fronts. More than the number of soldiers of the future, their efficiency, state-of-the-art weapons, and equipment are important. And the development of information technology infrastructure etc. That's why it is necessary to prepare the Indian Army according to the new requirements. Only by doing this India can be established as a major military power in the 21st century. According to defense experts, the technologically adept is far more effective in game-changing tasks. Hence it is a game-changing project in which not only will the profile of the armed forces be young, technologically proficient, and energetic, but will also be equipped with state-of-the-art weapons and equipment.

2-Importance and Purpose

Today Indian Army is considered to be the fourth most powerful army in the world after America, Russia, and China. Year In 1950, India had 4 lakh soldiers, whereas today we have 14.5 lakh active soldiers, including 12.37 lakh soldiers, 1. There are 39 lakh airmen and 67288 airmen. In addition, there is 11.55 lakh reserves soldier. In terms of defense spending in the world India also ranks fourth after the US (\$750 billion), China (\$237 billion), and Saudi Arabia (\$67 billion). India spends 2.7 percent of its GDP on defence while the US spends 3.5 percent of its GDP and Russia 4.1 per cent. Spends on defense. For the financial year 2022-23, India has increased its defence budget by 9.8 percent to 525166 crores. A provision of INR. 0 has been made, out of which INR. 119696 crores will be spent on a pension of ex-servicemen, INR. 2.33 lakh crore will be spent on salary Expenses will be on organizational maintenance, and INR 152369 crore related to the modernization of military equipment in the defence sector will spend on capital items. Apart from this, INR 20,100 crore has been kept for the Ministry of Defense (Civil). On pension in America 10 per cent of the defence budget, 14 per cent is spent in Britain while 22.8 per cent is spent in India.

3-It is necessary to achieve self-reliance in defence production.

According to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, India is the world's biggest weapon in the last four decades. Importing country. This condition makes us extremely vulnerable to outside influence and pressure in times of war. Therefore defence production is necessary to achieve self-reliance. The previous governments have made significant changes as per the recommendations of the Cargill Review Committee. Did not make policy changes. On the contrary, the Modi government has laid special emphasis on the establishment of India's domestic defence industry. Under the Self-reliant India campaign, the government has given priority to defence production. Due to this India exports defence equipment today and has joined the list of 25 countries that Emphasizing on self-reliance in the defense sector, the Prime Minister has said that after all how long will we take the risk of using the same weapons that the rest of the world has?

4- The Agneepath scheme is in line with this proposal

Cargill Review Committee One of the reforms recommended was related to the recruitment process of the armed forces. It said that the Defense Services should be limited to a period of 7 to 10 years. In 2020, the army also conducted a tour of duty for the recruitment of youth for 3 years. The plan was proposed. The Agneepath scheme is in line with this recommendation/proposal. This is a big step in the defense sector since independence. Can be considered an improvement.

The age of those who take premature retirement in all three parts of the army is 35 to 38 years. The average of the army in 1989 where was 30 years, it is currently 32 years. The army wants to reduce it to 26 years. From recruitment in the army to the age of the soldier till retirement will be 21 to 25 years. The objective of the Agneepath scheme is not only to make the structure of the armed forces younger, Keep youth full of energy, connecting with youth power with modern technology, but also with contemporary techniques and trends Converting familiar youths into disciplined and motivated human resources by connecting them with the armed forces and providing them with the necessary skills. Tax is also to benefit society and the nation.

5-Agneepath scheme for army recruitment

June 14 after approval in the meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) chaired by Prime Minister Agneepath plan for army recruitment in 2022 by Defense Minister Shri Rajnath Singh in a press conference with the chiefs of the three services was announced. Under this scheme, in all the wings of the army- water, landed air force, below the officer rank (IV) Young men and women will be recruited for this. He will be given the name of Agni veer. Their recruitment is for 4 years including 6 month trial of Ning. Will be taken at the end of the fourth year, and the services of Agni veer will be reviewed. After review, eligibility, efficiency, fitness, and based on desire, etc., 25% Agni veer will be kept in a regular cadre, which will be kept for the next 15 years.

Will work for the entire term. Remain the remaining cent Agni veer will be retired (tour of duty). Retired Agni veer will not get gratuity and pension, but a lump sum service fund of INR 11.71 lakh (tax-free given and Agni veer Skill (accreditation) certificate will be given. (After 4 years' service for the 10th pass Agni veer, 12th pass certificate also will be given) based on which preference will be given to get a job in any other place or to do own business No secured loan will be available at minimum interest.

6-Age of the applicant to become Agni veer

The age of the applicant should be 17) to 21 years. (Due to Corona only for the first year (2022) the upper age limit has been increased from 21 years to 23 years on 16th June 2022) on the form of applicants who are below 18 years of age. Parthia's parent's signature is required. Applicant should be Senior Secondary / 10th pass. For an applicant for general duty, it is mandatory to pass in 10th with 45 per cent marks in aggregate and at least 33 per cent marks in each subject. For Technical Cadre, the applicant should have 50% marks in aggregate with PCM, English in 12th, and, 40% in each subject. It is mandatory to have percentage marks. Applicants for C and B certificates of NCC will get extra marks in recruitment whereas Youth involved in violent demonstrations against the scheme will not be made a part of this new recruitment scheme.

To recruit the old army recruitment method will be followed i.e. the applicant will have to go through physical tests, medical tests, etc. Will have to pass and they will also be given training. A total of 46000 Agni veer will be recruited in the first year (2022) under the Agneepath scheme. Out of which 40000 in Army (25000 in the first phase and 15000 in the second phase), 3000 in Air Force, and 3000 in the Navy (20 per cent women) Agni veer will be recruited. In the next year, 50000 Agni veer will be recruited every year.

7-Army Recruitment Website for applicants-

Registering yourself on the Army Recruitment website for all applicants seeking recruitment under Agneepath Scheme is mandatory. On June 15, 2022, the country's largest Central Command, from the end of August to the first of November, Uttar Pradesh Announced organizing a recruitment rally in Uttara Khand. Released notification for recruitment under the scheme on 20 June 2022 Gone. Air Force started registration for recruitment in June 2022 which was closed on 05 July 2022. By navy Registration done from 15th July 2022 to 30th July 2022. Service under the Official Secrets Act, 1923 on Agni veer Disclosure of confidential information obtained during a separate rank will be created for Agni veer who Will be different from other existing ranks regular soldier, PARAM veer Chakra and other Will be honored with military honors.

8-Agni veer's monthly salary and other receipts during the service period-

The monthly salary of Agni veer in 4 year service period is INR.30000 in the first year, INR.33000 in the second year, INR.33000 in the third year 36500, and the last 4th year will be INR.40000. Out of this, 30 percent per annum is given for Agni veer's contribution to the service fund. INR.21000, INR.23100, INR.25550, and INR.28000 respectively by reducing the rate of INR.9000, INR.9900, INR.10950, and INR.12000 respectively Apart from this, free stay, food, treatment and risk, hardship allowance, uniform allowance, etc. will be given. Agni veer will get 30 days to leave every year. As much as Agni veer's contribution to the service fund, the government's contribution will be the same. Will happen. This amount (contribution of both) will be INR 10, 04,400 on which the benefit of interest will also be available.

Thus the total fund amount will be INR 11.71 lakh (tax tax-free Agni veer will get in a lump sum on retirement after 4 years of service. Agni veer will get an annual package of INR.4.76 Lakhs for the first year while an annual package of INR.6.92 Lakhs for the last year will receive. Agni veer gets INR 44 lakh on 100 per cent, and INR 25 lakh on 75 per cent Agni veer in case of disability during the service period. 0 lakh and compensation of INR. 15 lacks will on 50 per cent disability. Whereas on death in service, Agni veer Non-contributory life insurance cover of INR.48 lakh to the nominee/dependent, additional ex-gratia amount of INR.44 lakh, unserved (service Not done) amount of payment and severance fund will be given for the tenure. In this way, a total of about one crore rupees Payment will be made.

9-Retired Agni veer and alternative employment

The remaining 75 percent of Agni veer, who retired after completing 4 years of service, is a disciplined, dynamic, motivated, and skilled labour force and will be able to pursue a career of their choice in various sectors. Re-Employment of Retired Firemen Announcements are being made by states, ministries, and others from day one: - On 15 June 2022, Yogi Adityanath announced that Agni veer would be sent to Uttar Pradesh after serving in the Indian Armed Forces. Preference will be given to jobs of State Police and other related services. Similarly, in Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, and Assam He has also announced to provide alternative employment to firemen in police and reserve forces.

On 15 June 2022, Mr Amit Shah, under the Ministry of Home Affairs, 7 Armed Forces and Assam Announced a 10 percent reservation for Agni veers in Rifles jobs. Later on giving, priority was to firemen and it was also announced to give a relaxation of 3 years in the upper age limit to Agni veers. Ministry of Defense Recruitment for Agni veers who fulfill the eligibility criteria as required by the Ministry of Defense on 18th June 2022 was announced to reserve 10 percent seats in jobs. In Civil Jobs in the Ministry of the Defense, the Indian Coast Guard and This reservation in 16 chain jobs under the Ministry of Defense iarein addition to the existing reservation for ex-servicemen. Extra will be provided. The Ministry of Shipping has appointed Agni veers passing out of the Navy for various jobs in the Merchant Navy. Announced 6 exciting schemes to give chance in roles. Skill Development, Housing, and Petroleum, Ministries also came forward to provide alternative employment to firemen.

10-Employment and priority in employment

Ministry of Culture 3693 centrally protected places having special importance from all historical and cultural points of view of the country planning to give the responsibility of security of monuments and museums to firemen and ex-servicemen. Corporate houses- Mahindra Group, Tata Sons, HUL, RPG Group, Beacon, and Adani Group have given better treatment to Agni veers. It has been said to give jobs and give priority. The National Defense University of Gujarat has given university honors to Agni veers. After doing online e-diploma and degree courses have talked about making his future in military service and technical field. Nation The al Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) has decided to start a special course for 10th-pass firefighters. He has announced that he will be able to complete his 12th standard. Due to this, they can easily qualify for higher education and employment. Will be able to get training. UGC is also preparing to recognize the skills of Agni veers.

11-Opposition to Agni veers scheme

Disagreeable/unhappy youth with the Agni veers scheme protested against this scheme in some states especially Bihar, Punjab, and West Bengal, Fierce violence was created in Rajasthan, Telangana, Jharkhand, Delhi NCR, etc. During this, traffic jams, vandalism, and Arson were done. Some political parties, some coaching operators training youth for defence services and more probably the foreign forces also instigated the youth to protest. Indians on June 19, 2022, only amid protests the army had made it clear that there was no question of taking it back, yet on June 20, 2022, without any Bharat Bandh was sponsored by the official notice/call, which did not show any effect in any state. On June 30 in 2022, the Punjab Legislative Assembly passed a resolution demanding the withdrawal of the Agneepath scheme. Agneepath in Supreme Court a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) was filed challenging the plan. Trinomial Congress (TMC) launched the Agneepath scheme. Opposition in the meeting of the Parliamentary Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Defense The MPs raised the demand to withdraw this scheme immediately.

12-Conclusion-

Today all the major countries of the world are trying to reduce the average age of their forces, reduce the number of forces and change the service conditions, if we are engaged in modernizing the army by cutting salary-pension expenditure, then there is no justification that India should do something like this. Do not do this and that too when challenges are increasing on the security front. The opposition parties, being ignorant of the fact, want to pretend that a major part (67 per cent) of the defence budget is being spent on the salaries and pensions of the soldiers.

If the goal of modernization of the army is being left behind, it means that they are more important than the nation. Giving importance to narrow political interests. In the coming times, war will be fought with modern weapons and equipment and with the help of technology. Technically proficient young soldiers will be needed. Agni Veer will be important in this. If after 4 years no discrimination is made in keeping Agni-veers in the regular cadre and retiring and law is made for adjustment of Agni-veers, then this scheme is undoubtedly the best. It would prove to be a follower in other sectors of the economy as well. Perhaps India is beginning to see clouds of the impending crisis on the horizon. India passing through a long hiatus in this decade is making preparations before the Great War which will last till then. This purification will not only happen on or outside India's borders but internally as well. That is why India is preparing a chain of Indian youth in a short time, who will be able to serve under the umbrella of the Indian Army. Who will be disciplined and trained?

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