

AGNIPATH SCHEME FOR ARMED FORCES RECRUITMENT

With a view to create a youthful profile of the Armed Forces, the Government of India has launched 'AGNIPATH' scheme for their recruitment.

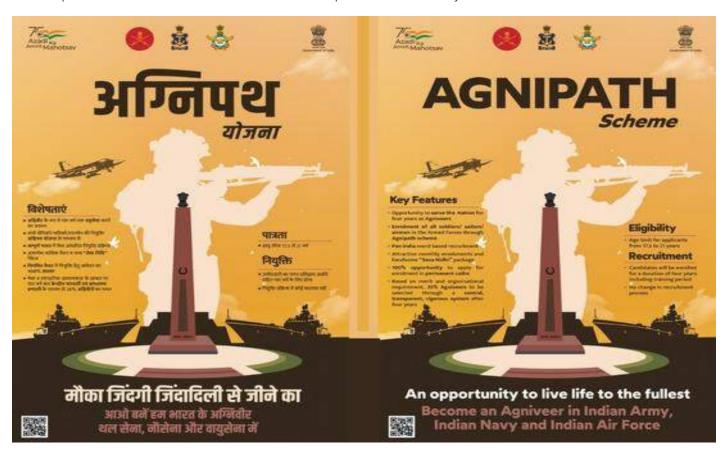
The scheme is aimed at creating an army of younger and fitter individuals with a diverse profile. It is a transformative move by the Government of India to modernise the country's armed forces, create opportunities for the youth to serve the nation besides creating a large pool of skilled youth who can contribute to India's overall defence preparedness.

Individuals selected under this scheme will be called as Agniveers and would be serving in the Armed Forces for a period of four years. Enrolment will be based on 'All India All Class' basis and the eligible age will be in range from 17.5 to 21 years. For its first batch the government has announced upper age relaxation to 23 years.

Agniveers will be given an attractive customised monthly package along with Risk and Hardship allowances as applicable in the three services along with a Life Insurance Cover of Rs 48 lakhs for the duration of their engagement period in the Indian Armed Forces.

On completion of the engagement period of four years, they will be paid one time 'Seva Nidhi' package which is exempted from Income Tax. However, there shall be no entitlement to gratuity and pensionary benefits. A total of 46000 soldiers would be recruited every year. Of these, about 25% would be retained for an additional tenure of 15 years for permanent commission.

During their period of service to the nation, the Agniveers will be imparted with various military skills and experience, discipline, physical fitness, leadership qualities, courage and patriotism. Post this stint of four years, they will be infused into the civil society where they can contribute immensely towards the nation building process. Various Government Ministries and Departments are already.





Year	Customised Package (Monthly) (Rs)	In Hand (70%) (Rs)	Contribution to Ag- niveer Corpus Fund (30%) (Rs)	Contribution to corpus fund by GoI (Rs)
1st Year	30000	21000	9000	9000
2nd Year	33000	23100	9900	9900
3rd Year	36500	25580	10950	10950
4th Year	40000	28000	12000	12000
Total contribution in Agniveer Corpus Fund after four years			Rs 5.02 Lakh	Rs 5.02 Lakh
Exit After 4 Year				Rs 11.71 Lakh as Seva Nidhi Package (Including, interest accumulated on the above amount as per the applicable inter- est rates would also be paid)

Source: PIB

Benefits to the Agniveers under this scheme:

- 1. Agniveers will be given an attractive customised monthly package along with Risk and Hardship allowances as applicable in the three services. They will receive a customized monthly package starting from net salary of Rs 21000 in 1st year to Rs 28000 in the 4th year. While the gross package will be start from Rs 30000 in 1st year to Rs 40000 in their 4th year. 30 % from their gross salary will be deposited in Agniveer Corpus Fund and an equal amount will be contributed by the government to the corpus fund.
- 2. On completion of the engagement period of four years, Agniveers will be paid one time 'Seva Nidhi' package which shall comprise their contribution including accrued interest thereon and matching contribution from the Government equal to the accumulated amount of their contribution including interest as indicated which will be around Rs 11.71 lac. This 'Seva Nidhi' package will be exempt from any Income Tax
- 3. However, there shall be no entitlement to gratuity and pensionary benefits.
- 4. Moreover, they will be provided non-contributory Life Insurance Cover of Rs 48 lakhs for the duration of their engagement period in the Indian Armed Forces.

Recruits would have to meet the medical eligibility conditions laid down for enrolment in the armed forces as applicable to respective categories/trades.





Category	Education	Age
Soldier General Duty	SSLC/Matric with 45% marks in aggregate.No%required if higher qualification.	17.5 - 21 Years
Soldier Technical	10+2/Intermediate exampassed in Science with Physics, Chemistry, Maths and English. Now eight age for higher qualification.	17.5 - 21 Years
SoldierClerk / StoreKeeper Technical	10+2/Intermediate exam passed in any stream(Arts,Commerce,Science) with 50% marks in aggregate and min40% in each subject. Weight age for higher qualification.	17.5 - 21 Years
Soldier Nursing Assistant	10+2/Intermediate exam passed in Science with Physics,Chemistry,Biologyand English with min 50% mark sin aggregate and min40% in each subject. Now eight age for higher qualification.	17.5 - 21 Years
Soldier Trades man		17.5 - 21 Years
(i)GeneralDuties	Non Matric	17.5 - 21 Years
(ii)SpecifiedDuties	Non Matric	17.5 - 21 Years

Source: PIB



- Meghna Chukkath