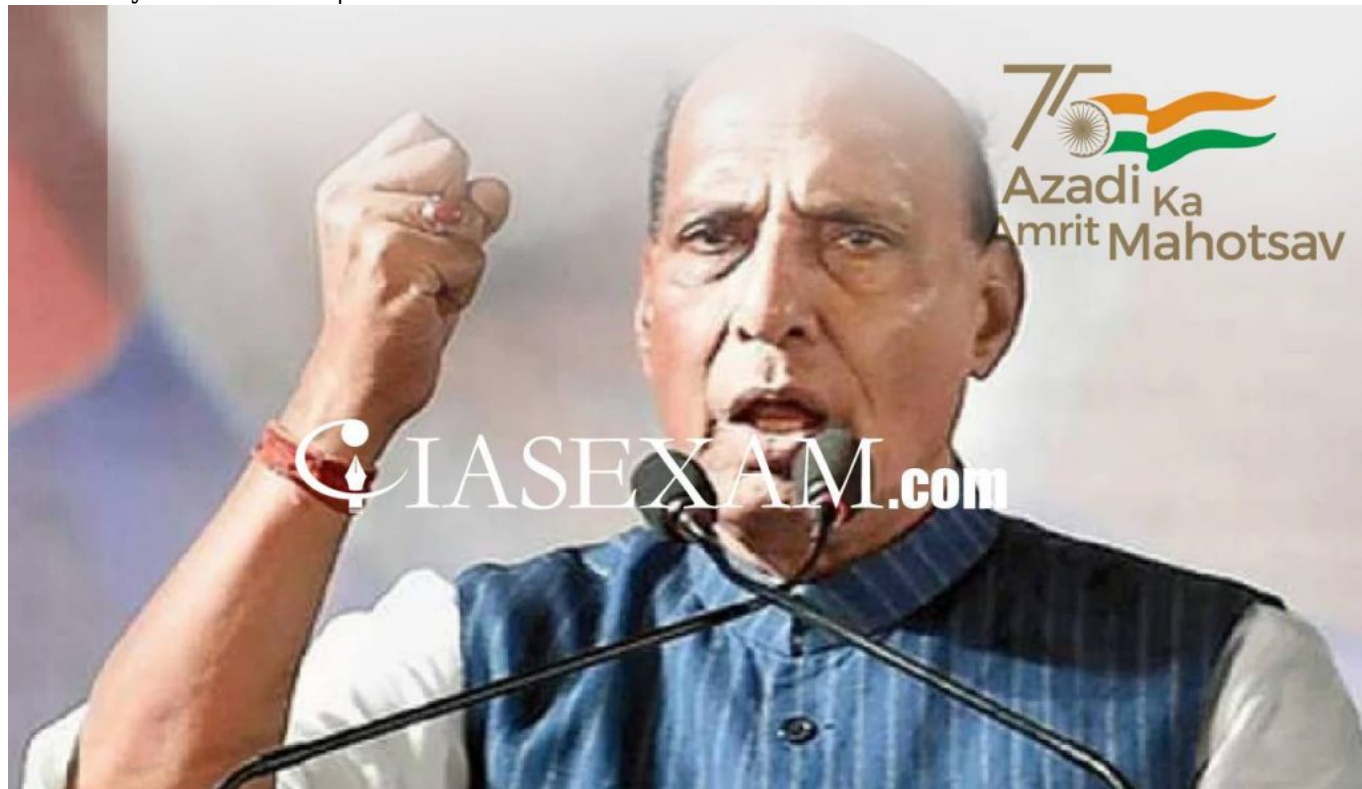


Defence Ministry launches Raksha Pension Shikayat Nivaran Portal

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The Defence Ministry has set up an online portal to resolve pension-related grievances of ex-servicemen (ESM) and their dependents, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh announced recently.

The portal will allow them to lodge grievances directly with the Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare (DESW), he stated on the occasion of Armed Forces Veterans Day.

Key Highlights

- The minister also announced that the DESW has allotted Rs 320 crore to Armed Forces Flag Day Fund (AFFDF) to clear all backlog of pending applications for welfare schemes, especially education and marriage grants for widows or dependent children of ESM.
- The minister also stated that the Directorate General of Resettlement has issued 22,278 job letters — including 7,898 job letters to freshly retired/first-time entrants — to civil life ESMs in government sector/PSUs/banks and private sector during the year April 2021-December 2021, he stated.
- The Directorate General of Resettlement functions under the aegis of the DESW.

- The Armed Forces Flag Day Fund, administered by the Kendriya Sainik Board, is being utilised to fund a number of welfare schemes for ex-servicemen, widows and dependants. These welfare schemes aim to provide financial assistance to the ex-servicemen fraternity, widows, dependants and maintain various facilities — Cheshire Homes/Paraplegic Homes/War Memorial Hostels — meant for ex-servicemen and their dependents.

SOURCE: *The Hindu*