



Ministry
of Defence

Operations Support
Room 223
Tomlinson House
Norcross
Thornton-Cleveleys
Lancashire, FY5 3WP
United Kingdom

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See Distribution

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GURKHA PENSION SCHEME – 2023 AWARD

1. I am directed to inform you that the existing rates of Gurkha Retirement Pension, Gurkha Service Pension, Gurkha Disability Pension and Gurkha Family Pension have been revised with effect from 1 April 2023. The current rates, which are based on Indian Army pensions and issued in accordance with the Gurkha Pension Manual, but incorporate a welfare related cash uplift to take account of the benefits in kind provided to Indian Army ex-servicemen, have received a 2023 pension increment of 7.38% to take account of cost of living increases in Nepal. In line with existing policy the increase is based on the Nepal Rastra Bank consumer price index for inflation in Nepal. All revised rates supersede those from 1 April 2022.
2. **Gurkha Retirement Pension**. The revised rates of Retirement Pension payable to Gurkha Commissioned Officers, are shown at Annex A.
3. **Gurkha Service Pension**. The revised rates of Gurkha Service Pension payable to Queen's Gurkha Officers granted honorary rank, Queen's Gurkha Officers and Gurkha Other Ranks are:
 - a. **Queen's Gurkha Officers Granted Honorary Rank**. Revised rates for Queen's Gurkha Officers granted honorary rank are shown at Annex B.
 - b. **Queen's Gurkha Officers, Honorary Queen's Gurkha Officers and Gurkha Other Ranks**. Revised rates for Queen's Gurkha Officers, Honorary Queen's Gurkha Officers and Gurkha Other Ranks are shown at Annex C.
4. **Gurkha Disability Pension**. The Gurkha Disability Pension is made up of two elements, a service pension element and a disability element. Revised rates of the service pension element are in accordance with those shown in Annexes A, B and C. Revised rates of the disability element are shown at Annex D.
5. **Gurkha Family Pensions**. The revised rates of Gurkha Family Pension for all ranks are shown at Annex E to this letter.

6. **Minimum Rates of Pension**. The minimum rate of pension has been raised to ICR 27,198.10 per month with effect from 1 April 2023.

7. **Pension Credits to Individual Accounts**. The new rates of pension will be applied to the Far East and Nepal Administration System for the pensions run of April 2023. Pension rates will be converted to Nepali rupees for payment at the peg rate of ICR1 : NCR 1.6. Pensioners paid in cash at the Pension Payment Offices will have the new rates due available from 1 May 2023 dependent on COVID-19 restrictions in Nepal and details of collection arrangements will be published by Headquarters British Gurkhas Nepal. Banking pensioners will have their accounts credited by the end of April 2023, although this may be later depending on location and the bank used. Payments in cash from 1 May 2023 from Area Welfare Centres will be dependent on COVID-19 restrictions in Nepal and will be according to the programme published by Headquarters British Gurkhas Nepal.

Roger Eyres

Roger Eyres
DBS, Veterans UK Operations Support
E-mail: DBS Vets-AFCSWP-SupBandD

Annexes:

- A. Gurkha Commissioned Officers – Rates of Retirement Pension.
- B. Gurkha Service Pension Rates for Queen’s Gurkha Officers Granted Honorary Rank.
- C. Gurkha Service Pension Rates for Queen’s Gurkha Officers, Honorary Queen’s Gurkha Officers and Gurkha Other Ranks.
- D. Gurkha Disability Element Pension Rates.
- E. Gurkha Family Pension Rates.

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HQ Brigade of Gurkhas – for Col BG and Bde Sec
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