



## ALL INDIA ASSOCIATION OF COAL EXECUTIVES (AIACE)

(Regd. under The Trade Union Act 1926; Regd. No. 546 / 2016)

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**AICPA/CENTRAL/2019/ 130**

**Dated 23/ 10/2019**

To

Hon'ble Narendra Modi Jee

Prime- Minister of India

New Delhi.

Sub: Need of review and upward revision of Pension and Medicare Scheme of Pensioners in Coal Sector and staging one-day dharna at Jantar Mantar, New Delhi on 9th December 2019

Honourable Prime Minister Sir,

At the very outset, we, on behalf of the serving and retired executives and employees of public sector coal mining industry numbering nearly 9 lakh convey our heartfelt appreciation and gratitude for your concern to society and bringing the nation to a new height of glory.

On behalf of retired employees of Coal Industry, we may be permitted to highlight the issue of meagre pension being paid to the employees in the Coal sector in order to seek suitable measures for review and upward revision of their pension which has never been revised since the implementation of the scheme some 25 years ago under CMPS 1998. The pension scheme is under implementation from 1/4/1994 and presently it covers around 4.5 lakh retired employees of the coal industry and almost an equal number of employees from Coal India, SCCL and other public and private sectors who contribute every month to this scheme. Presently, a fixed amount of pension is paid by Coal Mines Provident Fund and no revision has been done although there is a provision for review and revision. It will be a shock for you to know that some of the CIL and SCCL employees retired prior to 2000 are receiving a meagre amount of Rs.750 to 2000 p.m. as a pension. This meagre pension accompanied by restricting the cost of Medical reimbursement of treatment to only empanelled hospitals, in place of any Hospitals, at CGHS rates are further adding to the woes and misery to pensioners.

The crux of the problem is that this pension has not been revised since inception. The pensioners are getting the same amount of pension fixed at the time of retirement for their entire life. There is not any increase of a single PAISA to take care of the rising living cost of index. It is a pity that some pensioners are getting far less pension than the prescribed minimum of Rs.1000/- per month. It is to bring to your kind notice that government has been benefitted to the tune of more than Rs 50000/ crore paid by Coal India as a dividend, taxes besides expenditure done by it on Corporate Social Responsibility. This issue of pension revision has been raised several times on different occasions at different platforms, but they have failed to yield any result.

In this connection, let us briefly explain about CMPFO, the organization created and responsible for implementation of coal mines pension scheme in a few lines.

In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 3E of the Coal Mines Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1948 (46 of 1948) and in supersession of the Coal Mines Family Pension Scheme, 1971, except in respect of things done or omitted to be done before such supersession, the Central Government has framed the Coal Mines Pension Scheme, 1998 (CMPS-1998). CMPS 1998 is a contributory pension scheme, under the provisions of which there should be review of the Fund by the Board of Trustees (BOT) every three years. While the administration of the scheme required periodical review and revision of pension, but no such revision has been made during the last 20 years. This has resulted in a situation in which, as the employee grows older, he becomes poorer because the pension does not account for the time-dependent cost of living. The older employees who retired as Chairman and Managing Director of a Coal Company get a pension in the range of Rs 3000/- pm. The plight of the employees retiring as workmen, supervisor and junior executive can be well understood.

The omissions and commissions of the BOT/CMPFO responsible for the fund management were highlighted by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India and parliamentary committees from time to time in their reports which are available in public domain.

Sir, the review and enhancement of pension, along with allowing medical reimbursement at any Hospital at CGHS rates will eradicate Pensioners' woes. We demand such reimbursements at CGHS rates irrespective of treatment taken at empanelled or non-empanelled hospitals or otherwise, as has been upheld by Supreme Court too.

We, shall be greatly obliged, if you may very kindly look into the matter and take suitable action for the review of the pension scheme, CMPS 1998 and revision of the pension taking into account the increased cost of living with the passage of time.

Lastly, in order to draw your urgent attention to the issue, we propose to hold a one day long DHARNA at Jantar Mantar, New Delhi on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2019 with an expectation that under your able guidance the responsible authorities will awaken to find an amicable solution to our problems.

Regards,



P K SINGH RATHOR  
Principal General Secretary

CC:-- The Finance Minister of India, New Delhi.

The Coal Minister Of India, New Delhi

The Labour Minister of India, New Delhi.

The Coal Secretary, Ministry of Coal , Govt of India, New Delhi.

The Labour Secretary, Govt of India, New Delhi.

The CMPF Commissioner, Dhanbad, Jharkhand.

The Chairman,Coal India Ltd, Kolkata.

The CMD, Singreni Collieries Company Ltd, Kothagudem, Distt- Khammam,Telangana.

The Commissioner of Police, New Delhi -- With a request to allot a space at Jantar- Mantar on  
9/12/2019 for the dharna programme between 10 am to 4 PM.