



ALL INDIA ASSOCIATION OF COAL EXECUTIVES (AIACE)

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

302, Block No. - 304, RamKrishna Enclave, Nutan Chowk, Sarkanda, Bilaspur (CG);

Email: centralaiace@gmail.com; Ph. 9904734051

AIACE/CENTRAL/2020 / 2

Dated 6-1-2020

TO,

The Commissioner
Coal Mines Provident Fund Commissioner
POLICE LINE
DHANBAD – 826014
Jharkhand

Dear Sir,

SUB: Pension to spouse of deceased pensioner.

Of late, we have been receiving a number of complaints from spouses of deceased pensioners regarding the difficulties being faced by them in getting pension. Being a registered Trade Union in the Coal Industry looking after the interest of both working and retired employees of the industry, we would like to highlight the plight of such people.

1. On retirement from the Coal Industry, the families have settled in different parts of India and most of them are quite far from the last place of posting. In case of death of the pensioner, the spouse has to go through a complicated and often insurmountable task of completing the formalities required for getting due pension, such as submitting SAHAJ form at the last place of posting.
2. Most of the spouses are not even aware that they are entitled to pension, leave alone the procedure to get it. It is suggested that the name of the spouse be mentioned in the Pension Payment Order as also the amount of pension payable. This practice is in vogue in case of EPF, GPF. The required details are already given by the employee at the time of superannuation.
3. Even a seasoned bureaucrat will find it a tough task to fill the SAHAJ Form in its present avatar, what to speak of the spouse of a coal mine employee. A separate, simplified form needs to be introduced for claiming pension by the spouse.
4. As the pensioners' families are settled far from their last place of posting, submission of the claim is a costly and troublesome affair. Due to this reason, many unfortunate claimants have preferred not to submit their claim. Procedural reforms are required to introduce a system for acceptance of such claims at the nearest establishment of Coal India Ltd. or its Subsidiaries or Employees Provident Fund Organisation. Only then the purpose of social security, the prime objective of Provident Fund, will be served.



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5. Pension claims should be settled within a reasonable span of time, as the retired employees and their spouses are already advanced in age and should not be subjected to avoidable delays. **If any assistance is required in this matter, AIACE is ready and willing to depute its knowledgeable and experienced members to your office to help your staff in clearing pending cases.** Acceptance of our offer will result in a win-win situation for all concerned.

We request you to consider the above points favourably.

P.K.SINGH RATHORE
Principal General Secretary

CC:--

1. *Chairman, Coal India Ltd, Kolkata.*
2. *CMD, Singreni Collieries company Ltd, Kothagudem, Telangana.*
3. *The Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Govt of India, New Delhi :-- For necessary direction in the matter.*
4. *Copy for information -- The Coal Minister, Govt of India, New Delhi.*