



ALL INDIA ASSOCIATION OF COAL EXECUTIVES (AIACE)

(Regd. Under the Trade Union Act, 1926; Regd. No. 546 / 2016)

302, Block No. 4, Ram Krishna Enclave, Nutan Chowk, Sarkanda; Bilaspur (CG)

E-mail : centralaiace@gmail.com ; Ph. 9907434051

Ref No. **AIACE/CENTRAL/2022 / 079**

Dated 5.8.2022

To
The Commissioner,
Coal Mines Provident Fund Organisation,
DHANBAD – 826001. (Jharkhand)

Sub: Intimation of ongoing agitation by coal pensioners and the need to accelerate ongoing reforms as suggested by CAG & PAC

Dear Sir,

Your attention is drawn to copy of letter written by our sister organization AICPA (All India Coal Pensioners' Association), addressed to Hon'ble Prime Minister (Enclosure-I) with copies of receipt of letters delivered in the offices of Hon'ble PM, Hon'ble Home Minister and Coal Secy on 1st August, 2022. (Enclosures II, III and IV respectively)

The subject line of the referred letter is, **Compelling decision to stage Dharna from 25-7-2022 at Jantar-Mantar, New Delhi against non-review of CMPS-1998 and non-revision of pension and failure of Ministry of Coal and CMPFO in this respect causing stagnant pension for last 24 years in coal sector.**

Feeling betrayed, agitated individual pensioners across the country had staged relay Dharna for 5 days from 25th July, 2022 seeking justice by drawing the attention of authorities towards the injustice being meted out to them. Their grievances are briefly described below.

Contributory Pension scheme for retirees in Coal sector, run by fund provided by equal contribution from employee and employer, suffers from Mismanagement of fund and poor design of scheme as pointed out and accepted by government in 36th Report of PAC NO. 2244 submitted to Parliament in 2021 by PAC for Ministry of Coal. The report can be accessed at: http://164.100.47.193/lsscommittee/Public20Accounts/17_Public_Accounts_36.pdf

Accordingly, some steps have been reportedly initiated for review and upward revision of pension which has never been done for past 24 years at regular interval of 3 years as stipulated in scheme.

In this regard, we are grateful to the Secretary, Coal, for facilitating our interaction with the Economic Adviser to the Ministry of Coal on 5th March 2021. As a result of the talks, vide letter no. AIACE/Central/2021/25 dated 11.3.2021, we had sent our proposals/suggestions, after which on 7th April, 2021, CMPF had invited comments from all Coal companies and BOT members. (Enclosure-V)

We are not aware of any further action on our suggestions, but, later on in an intelligent move, CMPF requested all coal companies to levy a voluntary cess of Rs 10 per tonne production of coal. This somewhat compensated for the erosion of fund. Proceedings of last meeting held in January, 2022 of CMPF Board of Trustees suggest that steps are underway to explore the feasibility of enhancing this cess and making it compulsory to arrive at a permanent all time long-run solution. However, the pensioners seek an accelerated effort and early time-bound commitment to overhaul the entire pension scheme and urge for allowing an ad hoc enhancement of pension till the scheme is overhauled.

It is a bitter truth that, poor pensioners are paying price of earlier misdeeds and their loss cannot be reclaimed by any means. To press for fulfilling these demands, the pensioners propose the next Dharna at Jantar Mantar on 5th December, 2022.

Under the circumstances, your kind initiative and interference are solicited for breaking the ice and activating the decision making process of Board of Trustees for needful action. We at AIACE are also ready to contribute by sharing our expertise.

With Regards,

P.K.SINGH RATHOR
Principal General Secretary

Copy to:

1. Secy. (Coal)



2022/AICPA/CENTRAL/001/(101-JMD-EN)

Date - 25-7-2022

To
 Honorable Shri Narendra Modi ji,
 Prime Minister, Government of India,
 New Delhi

Subject: Compelling decision to stage Dharna from 25-7-2022 at Jantar-Mantar, New Delhi against non- review of CMPS-1998 and non-revision of pension and failure of Ministry of Coal and CMPFO in this respect causing stagnant pension for last 24 years in coal sector.

Respected Sir,

It is to bring to your kind notice that, a contributory pension scheme called CMPS-1998 was introduced for retired employees in coal sector by BJP led NDA govt in 1998. It was made effective from 1st April, 1994. It was claimed as a revolutionary measure by the government for providing robust social security to coal employees and workers.

But, the retired employees of Coal India, Singareni Collieries Company Limited and some other private companies have been striving for the last several years to bring the problems being faced by them to the notice of the competent departments. In the past, members of our sister organization AIACE and AICPA, have been approaching government and CMPFO authorities for review and revision of pension. We have tried to convey our grievances to the Ministry of Coal through many parliamentarians, but due to not getting the expected success, we have turned towards you with great expectations to provide relief to old retired coal employees.

CMPS-1998 is being operated by the Coal Mines Provident Fund Organization (CMPFO) working under the Ministry of Coal. In this, the pension amount payable on retirement remains constant throughout the life. Due to various irregularities, it has not been amended for the last 24 years, although there is a provision to review and revise the pension payable in the pension scheme after every three years.

Sir, it is a matter of surprise that as of today many coal pensioners/their widows are getting less than Rs 500/ to Rs 1000/ as monthly pension, whereas, under govt schemes for older people the amount is more than this amount. It is pertinent to note that these old coal employees have put their mites in their youth to produce coal to meet the energy security of the country.

We want to bring to your kind notice that, the Public Accounts Committee dealing with the Ministry of Coal had placed its 12th Report on 'Fund Management' in both the Houses of parliament on 18th March, 2020 and the Committee submitted its report to both the Houses on 21st July, 2021 with the action taken thereon. But the fact is that, these recommendations on strengthening the pension fund in favour of pensioners with some reforms in fund management perhaps have not impressed the concerned ministry on pension revision and enhancement. The coal ministry is unclear and the lack of action on this issue is clearly visible.

It is also the fact that the individuals and departments responsible for the related errors remained untouched, but the common pensioners had to bear the brunt of it. Due to financial mismanagement and inherent faulty concepts of the scheme, the pension fund, created out of contribution by coal employees/workers, got depleted gradually.

It is a bitter truth that, due to the past decisions of the departments concerned and the present indecisions, the rhetoric of pension increase is taking lives of many elderly pensioners every year.

In the light of above facts, it is requested to constitute a high-power committee on the issue of review and revision under CMPS-1998 in which our representatives should also be included to submit our views. In this regard, our associate organisation, All India Association of Coal Executives (AIACE) had submitted some suggestions in March 2021 vide letter no. AIACE/CENTRAL/2021/25 dated 11.3.2021.

It is to reiterate that pension can be increased without any budgetary support from the central government and meeting the same from the coal production companies by levying a small amount on selling price on account of pension fund as being done by some of the electricity producing and distribution companies.

To draw kind attention of all concerned, for the revision and increase in the pension of the coal pensioners without further delay, under the banner of All India Coal Pensioners Association (AICPA), the coal pensioners from all corners of the country, have decided to stage relay dharna, from 25th July, 2022 at Jantar-Mantar, New Delhi.

Finally, we do not want confrontation with the government, but at the same time we seek resolution of our issue.

With great expectations from the highest authority to take decision on the matter.

Yours sincerely,



(PK Singh Rathor)
Convenor,
All India Coal Pensioners Association

Annexure:

1. List of MPs Contacted
2. List of MPs who wrote letters of recommendation to the Minister of Coal

Copy to

- 1) Hon'ble Minister of Coal
- 2) Honorable Home Minister
- 3) Hon'ble Finance Minister
- 4) Secretary, Coal
- 5) Secretary DPE
- 6) Secretary, Pensions and Public Grievances
- 7) Chairman/Director, CIL
- 8) CMD, SCCL

List of MPs contacted so far

- 1 Smt. Himadri Singh, MP, Shahdol (MP)
- 2 Shri. Virendra Singh, MP, Ballia (UP)
- 3 Shri. Sanjay Seth, MP, Ranchi
- 4 Sadhvi Pragya Thakur, MP, Bhopal
- 5 Shri. Rakesh Singh, MP, Jabalpur
- 6 Shri Arun Sao, MP, Bilaspur (Chhattisgarh)
- 7 Shri Mahesh Sahu, MP, Dhenkanal (Odisha)
- 8 Shri. Ajay K Mandal, MP, Bhagalpur
- 9 Shri Durga Das Uike, MP, Betul
- 10 Shri DV Sadananda Gowda, MP, Bangalore North
- 11 Shri Ram Kripal Yadav, MP, Patliputra (Bihar)
- 12 Shri Chandraprakash Choudhary, MP, Giridih
- 13 Smt. Keshari Devi Patel, Phulpur (UP)
- 14 Shri Sunil Singh, MP, Chatra (Jharkhand)
- 15 Shri VD Ram, MP, Palamu (Jharkhand)
- 16 Shri Anumula Revanth Reddy, MP, Malkangiri (Telangana)
- 17 Shri. Deepak Prakash, MP, Rajya Sabha, Jharkhand
- 18 Shri Mahesh Poddar, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha (Jharkhand)
- 19 Shri Tiruchi Siva, Rajya Sabha MP, (Tamil Nadu)
- 20 Shri. Vidyut Baran Mahto, MP, Jamshedpur
- 21 Shri. Sunil Soni, MP, Raipur
- 22 Smt. Geeta Kora, MP, Singhbhumi
- 23 Shri. Srirang Appa Barne, MP, Maval, Pune
- 24 Smt. Annapurna Devi, MP, Koderma
- 25 Shri PN Singh, MP, Dhanbad
- 26 Shri. Guharam Ajgale, MP, Janjgir-Champa
- 27 Shri Janardan Prasad Sigriwal, MP, Maharajganj (Bihar)
- 28 Smt. Jyotsna Charan Das Mahant, MP, Korba (Chhattisgarh)
- 29 hours MVV Satyanarayana, MP, Visakhapatnam
- 30 Shri Chunni Lal Sahu, MP, Mahasamund (Chhattisgarh)
- 31 Shri Sudarshan Bhagat, MP, Lohardaga (Jharkhand)
- 32 Shri Bholu Nath (BP Saroj), MP, Maharajganj MP, Machhlishahr, (U.P.)
- 33 Shri Pratap Chandra Sarangi, Balasore (Odisha)
- 34 Shri Gopal Ji Thakur, Member of Parliament, Darbhanga.
- 35 Shri. Kaushalendra Kumar, MP, Nalanda
- 36 Shri. Vijay Kumar, MP, Gaya
- 37 Prof. Rita Bahuguna Joshi on CMPF Pension
- 38 Shri Vashistha Narayan Singh, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha, Bihar
- 39 Shri. Afzal Ansari, MP, Ghazipur (UP)
- 40 Shri. Girish Bhalchandra Bapat, MP, Pune on CMPF Pension
- 41 Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, MP, Patna Sahib (Bihar)
- 42 Shri Balubhau Dhanorkar, MP, Chandrapur (Maharashtra)
- 43 Smt. Supriya Sadanand Sule, MP, Baramati (Maharashtra)
- 44 Shri P.C. Mohan, MP, Bengaluru Central
- 45 Shri Bache Gowda B.N., MP, Chikkaballapur

- 46 Shri Sushil Kumar Modi, Rajya Sabha MP, Bihar
- 47 Shri. Sanjay Kumar Bandi, MP, Karimnagar, Telangana
- 48 Shri Lallu Singh, MP, Faizabad (Uttar Pradesh)
- 49 Sri Venkatesh Netha Borlakunta, Pedapalle (Telangana)
- 50 Shri Shyam Singh Yadav, MP, Jaunpur (Uttar Pradesh)
- 51 Shri Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, MP, Kaiserganj (Uttar Pradesh)
- 52 Smt. Navneet Ravi Rana, MP, ASriavati (Maharashtra)
- 53 Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank, MP, Haridwar (Uttarakhand)
- 54 Dr. Ramesh Chand Bind, MP, Bhadohi
- 55 Smt. Sangeeta Azad, MP, Lalganj (UP)
- 56 Shri Arvind Dharmapuri, MP, Nizamabad (Telangana)
- 57 Shri Balubhau Dhanorkar, MP, Chandrapur (Maharashtra)
- 58 Shri Manoj Kishorbhai Kotak., MP, Mumbai-North-East
- 59 Shri Ravindra Kushwaha, MP, Salempur (Uttar Pradesh)
- 60 Shri Nakul Nath, MP, Chhindwara (Madhya Pradesh)
- 61 Shri Pakori Lal Kol, MP, Robertsganj (UP)
- 62 Shri Kripal Balaji Tumane, Member of Parliament, Ramtek (Maharashtra)
- 63 Shri. Sunil Singh, MP, Chatra
- 64 Shri Neeraj Shekhar, MP, Ballia (Uttar Pradesh)
- 65 Shri Ramdas Chandrabhanji Tadas, MP, Wardha (Maharashtra)
- 66 Shri Sunil Baburao Mendhe, Member of Parliament, Bhandara-Gondia (Maharashtra)
- 67 Shri Ramapati Ram Tripathi MP, Deoria (Uttar Pradesh)
- 68 Shri Vijay Baghel, MP, Durg (Chhattisgarh)
- 69 Shri Gopal Ji Thakur, MP, Darbhanga
- 70 Shri. Sakaldeep Rajbhar, MP, Rajya Sabha (Uttar Pradesh)
- 71 Shri Ganesh Singh, MP, Satna
- 72 Shri Ashok Mahadevrao Leader, MP, Gadchiroli
- 73 Shri Ajay Pratap Singh, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha (Madhya Pradesh)
- 74 Dr. Vikas Mahatme, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha (Maharashtra)
- 75 Shri. Nitin Gadkari, MP, Nagpur
- 76 Shri VK Srikandan, MP, Palakkad (Kerala)
77. Shri V. Muraleedharan, Rajya Sabha MP (Kerala)
- 78 Col. Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore, MP, Jaipur Rural
- 79 Shri. Ravneet Singh Bittu, MP, Ludhiana (Punjab)
- 80 Dr. Saroj Pandey, MP, Rajya Sabha (Chhattisgarh)
- 81 Shri Ramcharan Bohra, MP, Jaipur
- 82 Shri Om Birla, MP, Kota (Rajasthan)
- 83 Prof. Saugata Roy MP, Dum Dum (West Bengal)
- 84 Dr. Pritam Munde, MP, Beed (Maharashtra)
- 85 Shri Janardan Mishra, MP, Rewa (Madhya Pradesh)
- 86 Shri. Shatrughan Sinha, MP, Asansol
- 87 Shri N. Uttam Kumar Reddy, MP, Nalgonda
- 88 Shri Bhartrihari Mahtab, MP, Cuttack (Odisha)

List of MPs writing letter to Hon'ble Minister of Coal

1. Shri Virendra Singh, Ballia
2. Mr. Rakesh Singh, Jabalpur
3. Shri Ajay Kumar Mandal, Bhagalpur
4. Mr. Mahesh Sahu, Dhenkanali
5. Shri Ramkripal Yadav, Patliputra
6. Smt. Pragya Thakur, Bhopal
7. Smt. Keshari Devi Patel, Phulpur, Prayagraj
8. Sri Sriranga Bappa Barne, Maval (Maharashtra).
9. Shri Janardan Singh Sigriwal, Maharajganj, Bihar
10. Sri D V Sadananda Gowda, Bangalore North
11. Shri MVV Satyanarayana, Visakhapatnam
12. Shri Pashupati Nath Singh, Dhanbad
13. Shri Mahesh Poddar, Rajya Sabha, Jharkhand
14. Shri Bhola Nath (BP Saroj), Machhlishahr, U.P.
15. Shri Vishnu Dayal Ram, Palamu, Jharkhand
16. Shri Sudarshan Bhagat, Lohardaga, Jharkhand
17. Mr. Vijay Kumar, Gaya, Bihar
18. Shri Durgadas Uike, Betul, MP
19. Smt (Prof.) Rita Bahuguna Joshi, Allahabad
20. Shri Girish Bhalchandra Bapat, Pune, Maharashtra
21. Mrs. Supriya Sule, Baramati, Maharashtra
22. Shri Vashisht Narayan Singh, MP, Bihar
23. Shri Arun Saw, Bilaspur, (Chhattisgarh)
24. Shri Lallu Singh, MP, Faizabad, Uttar Pradesh
25. Shri Brij Bhushan Singh, MP, Kaiserganj, Uttar Pradesh
26. Sri Anumula Revanth Reddy, Malkangiri
27. Sri Ravi Shankar Prasad, Patna Sahib
28. Mr. Afzal Ansari, Ghazipur
29. Dr. Ramesh Chand Bind, Bhadohi
30. Smt. Sangeeta Azad, Lalganj
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35. Mr. Sunil Baburao Mede, Bhandara-Gondia
36. Shri Balu Bhai Dhanorkar, Chandrapur
37. Shri Neeraj Shekhar, Rajya Sabha, Uttar Pradesh
38. Dr. Ramapati Ram Tripathi, Deoria
39. Mr. Vijay Baghel, Durg
40. Shri Ashok Madhavrao Nete, Gadchiroli-Chimur
41. Dr. Vikas Mahatme, Rajya Sabha, Maharashtra
42. Shri Nitin Gadkari, Nagpur
43. Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank, Haridwar
44. Dr. Saroj Pandey, Rajya Sabha, Chhattisgarh
45. Shri VK Srikantan
46. Prof. Saugata Roy, Dum Dum, Kolkata
47. Dr. Pritam Gopinath Munde, Beed, (Maharashtra)



2022/AICPA/CENTRAL/001/(101-JMD-EN)



Date - 25-7-2022

o/c
To
Honorable Shri Narendra Modi ji,
Prime Minister, Government of India,
New Delhi

Subject: Compelling decision to stage Dharna from 25-7-2022 at Jantar-Mantar, New Delhi against non- review of CMPS-1998 and non-revision of pension and failure of Ministry of Coal and CMPFO in this respect causing stagnant pension for last 24 years in coal sector

Respected Sir,

It is to bring to your kind notice that, a contributory pension scheme called CMPS-1998 was introduced for retired employees in coal sector by BJP led NDA govt in 1998. It was made effective from 1st April, 1994. It was claimed as a revolutionary measure by the government for providing robust social security to coal employees and workers.

But, the retired employees of Coal India, Singareni Collieries Company Limited and some other private companies have been striving for the last several years to bring the problems being faced by them to the notice of the competent departments. In the past, members of our sister organization AIACE and AICPA, have been approaching government and CMPFO authorities for review and revision of pension. We have tried to convey our grievances to the Ministry of Coal through many parliamentarians, but due to not getting the expected success, we have turned towards you with great expectations to provide relief to old retired coal employees.

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Sir, it is a matter of surprise that as of today many coal pensioners/their widows are getting less than Rs 500/ to Rs 1000/ as monthly pension, whereas, under govt schemes for older people the amount is more than this amount. It is pertinent to note that these old coal employees have put their mites in their youth to produce coal to meet the energy security of the country.

We want to bring to your kind notice that, the Public Accounts Committee dealing with the Ministry of Coal had placed its 12th Report on 'Fund Management' in both the Houses of parliament on 18th March, 2020 and the Committee submitted its report to both the Houses on 21st July, 2021 with the action taken thereon. But the fact is that, these recommendations on strengthening the pension fund in favour of pensioners with some reforms in fund management perhaps have not impressed the concerned ministry on pension revision and enhancement. The coal ministry is unclear and the lack of action on this issue is clearly visible.

It is also the fact that the individuals and departments responsible for the related errors remained untouched, but the common pensioners had to bear the brunt of it. Due to financial mismanagement and inherent faulty concepts of the scheme, the pension fund, created out of contribution by coal employees/workers, got depleted gradually. It is a bitter truth that, due to the past decisions of the departments concerned and the present indecisions, the rhetoric of pension increase is taking lives of many elderly pensioners every year.



ALL INDIA COAL PENSIONERS' ASSOCIATION

(A non-political Coal Pensioners' Body)

302, Block No. 4, Beankrishna Enclave, Noida, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh (C.G.)

E-mail : centralaicpa@gmail.com ; Ph. 9907434051

2022/AICPA/CENTRAL/001/(101-JMD-EN)

Date - 25-7-2022

o/c

HOME MINISTER

New Delhi

Subject: Compelling decision to stage Dharna from 25-7-2022 at Home Minister, New Delhi against non-review of CMPS-1998 and non-revision of pension and failure of Ministry of Coal and CMPFO in this respect causing stagnant pension for last 24 years in coal sector.

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It is to bring to your kind notice that, a contributory pension scheme called CMPS-1998 was introduced for retired employees in coal sector by BJP led NDA govt in 1998. It was made effective from 1st April, 1994. It was claimed as a revolutionary measure by the government for providing robust social security to coal employees and workers.

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2022/AICPA/CENTRAL/001/(101-JMD-EN)

Date - 25-7-2022

OK TO SECRETARY, COAL



New Delhi

Subject: Compelling decision to stage Dharna from 25-7-2022 at Jantar-Mantar, New Delhi against non-review of CMPS-1998 and non-revision of pension and failure of Ministry of Coal and CMPFO in this respect causing stagnant pension for last 24 years in coal sector.

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E. mail



कोयला खान भविष्य निधि आयुक्त का कार्यालय
(भारत सरकार, कोयला मंत्रालय का एक सांविधिक निकाय)
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
COAL MINES PROVIDENT FUND ORGANISATION
(A Statutory Organization under Ministry of Coal, Government of India)
मुख्यालय,
HEADQUARTERS OFFICE,

पुलिस लाईन./POLICE LINE,
धनबाद/DHANBAD
पिन - 826014/PIN-826014
(झारखण्ड)/(JHARKHAND)
Phone No /फोन नं० 0326-2202114
Fax No /फैक्स नं० 0326-2202297
email : commissioner@cmpfo.gov.in

No. CPF/CP/111(26)/Evaluation/Vol.XI/Part / 221

Dated: 07 April, 2021

To

1. All Coal Companies.
2. All BOT Members.

Subject :- Evaluation of Coal Mines Pension Scheme, 1998- Reg.

Sir,

Please find enclosed herewith suggestions to strengthen corpus of pension fund as received from Shri P.K. Singh Rathor, Principal General Secretary of All India Association of Coal Executives (AIACE).

As many of the issues involved will have impact on coal companies, your comment over the issues is requested so that the matter may be discussed in the next BOT.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

(A.K. Sinha)

Additional Commissioner

Copy to :-

(i) P.A to Commissioner, Coal Mines Provident Fund for information.

(ii) Shri P.K. Singh Rathor, Principal General Secretary of All India Association of Coal Executives (AIACE) for information.

Sd/-

(A.K. Sinha)

Additional Commissioner