

L 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/2024 / 066

Dated 26.8.2024

То

The Chairman, CMPF Board of Trustees, Ministry of Coal, Govt. of India, New Delhi.

Sub:- <u>Issue of appropriate mandate to banks to smoothen start of Widow pension under CMPS-</u> <u>1998 along with instructions to CMPFO for not issuing faulty Revised PPO to pensioners</u>

Dear Sir,

We want to draw your kind attention to our various letters like AIACE/CENTRAL / 010 dated 24.1.2024, AIACE/CENTRAL/2024 / 014 dated 3.2.2024, AIACE/CENTRAL / 040 dated 6.5.2024 AIACE/CENTRAL/2024 / 045 dated 24.5.2024, AIACE/CENTRAL / 051 dated 19.6.2024, AIACE/CENTRAL / 056 dated 12.7.2024 etc. regarding simplification of pension payment process to spouses of deceased coal executives and employees who are eligible for receiving pension under CMPS 1998.

AIACE and AICPA had been restoring to agitation for "Simplification of Widow/widower pension process and its starting at Bank Level on due Intimation.

The CMPFO took decision to issue revised pension pay order(PPO) mentioning the name of spouse of the employees for payment of entitled amount @60% of original pension after the death of the pensioner. It also circulated different formats for collection of data and documents from the existing pensioners scattered across the country through the collieries/units of CIL and SCCL from where they retired. This created panic among the pensioners. In last one year, a handful of data and documents have been collected as many a pensioners residing in remote areas and unaware of social media have not submitted the documents.

CMPFO directed all pensioners to convert their pension paying account into "Former or Survivor" mode. The nodal bank SBI also started issuing different directives at different levels.

The preparation of Revised PPO was half-heartedly started by different regions of CMPFO spread throughout the nation. Considerable time was lost in so called collection of data from pensioners which are already in the possession of various wings involved in Pension disbursement as shown below with our observations/comments:

Item	Documents required from	Our Observations/Comments
No.	CIL Offices	
1	Joint photo of pensioner & spouse (3 copies)	Already submitted with employer and CMPFO in the past. Also available with pension paying Bank. If required fresh, there must be Online mode of submission
2	SB A/c details in "F or S" mode of operation	Details are already available with bank
3	PAN and AADHAR details of pensioner & spouse	Details are already available with bank
4	Old PPO Intimation copy	Details available with bank, employer & CMPFO

This rigorous method could collect data from hardly 10% data from pensioners. Moreover, these data from every pensioner failed to satisfy CMPFO requirements leading to Rejection/Wrong preparation of Revised PPOs.

Tragically, Guidelines/SOP/Information to be followed by all Regional offices of CMPFO, the lead bank, the employer and the pensioner were never properly prepared, circulated or were announced. Certainly, it is a futile attempt by CIL/SCCL/CMPFO to collect data from pensioners about whom the company is not exactly knowing their whereabout as of now. Only the pension disbursing banks know about the live pensioners as well as their addresses available in the bank record.

Our association has been demanding simple process for start of pension after the death of beneficiaries to their spouses as below.

The spouse of the pensioners should approach the bank from where the beneficiary was getting pension and inform about the death of the spouse with request to start the pension at the rate of entitled amount. This will eliminate harassment to the spouses in visiting the collieries and units where last worked for filling several forms. The related data are already available with CMPFO and with the company.

It is to inform that the pensioners are very much agitated over the delaying attitude of CMPFO. The CMPF commissioner has been informed from time to time in writing as well as verbally but we are sorry to say that he turned deaf ear to resolve the issue.

The members of AICPA and AIACE had staged one day gherao and dharna of CMPFO, Asansol region on 22nd August, 2024 and they will organize at other places too if demands are not met.

Under the circumstances it is requested that being chairman of CMPFO, may kindly take decision in BOT meeting to adopt a procedure whereby, the banks are mandated to start spouse pension after submitting the death certificate of the beneficiary/pensioners on the basis of available PPO/Revised PPO as the case may be.

Thanking You,

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(P. K. SINGH RATHOR)

Principal General Secretary

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1. Sri G K Reddy Ji, Hon'ble Minister of Coal, Govt of India, New Delhi- With a request for appropriate direction to CMPFO.

2. Sri S C Dubey Ji, MOS (Coal), Govt of India, New Dehi

3. All Members of CMPF, Board of Trustees