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## AIACE/CENTRAL/2019/ 114

Dated 12/8 /2019

To, Shri Pralhaad Joshi Ji Hon'ble Minister for Coal and Parliamentary Affairs Govt of India Shastri Bhawan New Delhi 110001

Subject :- Revision of Coal Mines Pension Scheme 1998.

Respected Sir,

We are a registered union to ensure the well being and to look after the legitimate interest of working and retired coal executives and wish to submit our views on the above referred subject.

We are to submit that the above pension scheme which required periodical review and revision has not been done in the last 21 yrs. We have learnt that a sub committee constituted by the Board of Trustees of the above pension scheme and comprising of JS (CMPF), Director (Personnel) Coal India, Director (Finance), Coal India and Commissioner CMPF has given certain recommendations. We note that these recommendations neither considers the economic hardship being faced by the pensioners nor give any worthwhile compensation for their long service in a hard work environment and therefore, we, very strongly oppose to these anti -employee approach and request you, Sir, to look into these recommendations in the light of our views given below.

1.0 Average of 30 month salary to determine the pension amount:--

Our View- Currently, average of 10 month salary is taken to decide the pension amount. We are of the firm view that the current system be continued, as in the last 30 months of service an employee gets pay revision, promotion and increment and therefore, his average of 30 month salary will be very low and consequently his pension amount will be greatly reduced. There seems to be no rationale / reason to decrease the existing benefit of an employee by considering 30 month average salary instead of 10 month average salary as applicable on date.

## 2.0 Limiting monthly pension to Rs 45000/-

Our View- Again, this recommendation is ad hoc and arbitrary. Pension of an employee is decided on the basis of his last salary which is based on the price index / cost of living at the time of his retirement. In a developing economy as of ours, price index is a continuously rising and a fixed amount of pension, lower than his juniors is not justified. Moreover, it is hard to understand that while existing pensioners are allowed to draw higher amount, the future pensioners are limited to Rs 45000/though the cost of living may be higher for future pensioners. In all the organizations, persons retiring later; draw higher pension and the logic for this recommendation is beyond our understanding and we propose that the existing system with an upward revision every three years based on price index / cost of living be introduced.

## 3.0 Minimum monthly pension as Rs 1000/-

Our View – Proposed minimum monthly pension of Rs 1000/- is possibly lower or near to widow pension, pension for BPL persons and the like. An employee who has put in 30 yrs of service or more in the difficult and hard work environment and has contributed to the national economy needs a better treatment and such a low pension will be an insult to him rather than a help. It is proposed that the minimum pension be kept at Rs 20,000/ with every three year review for upward revision. All old pensioners drawing very meager amount of pension shall get a revised pension based on cost of living in the present situation as compared to the time of their retirement. A system similar to one rank one pension be made applicable to coal executives who risk their life to support national economy

We, very earnestly request you to kindly get the pension scheme revised in the light of our well considered views mentioned above. This will be of great help to nearly 9 lakh working and retired coal mine employees and their family members numbering nearly 50 lakh.

With best regards,

P K SINGH RATHOR

Principal General Secretary

Copy to

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

The Chairman, Coal India Ltd, Kolkata

The CMPF commissioner, CMPFO, Dhanbad

The Director (Finance) / Director (Personnel), Coal India Ltd, Kolkata.