



**ALL INDIA ASSOCIATION OF COAL EXECUTIVES (AIACE)**

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

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**Ref No. AIACE/CENTRAL/2020 / 058**

**Dated 8.6.2020**

To

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

Sub: Pension to Spouse of deceased Pensioner

Dear Sir,

Your kind attention is drawn to our earlier letter no. AIACE/CENTRAL/2020/2 dated 6th January 2020 (copy of letter attached for ready reference).

Further to the above letter, we would like to reiterate the problems faced by spouses of deceased pensioners in getting pension due to various reasons enumerated in our letter. In this regard, we propose the following changes to be initiated in order to mitigate the problems.

- a) The present outdated format of SAHAJ form needs to be drastically revised keeping in view the technological advances to make it easier to fill by pensioner/surviving spouse.
- b) At the time of superannuation of the member, biometrics and Aadhar details of the member and spouse may be captured.
- c) Particulars of spouse to be incorporated in Pension Payment Order.
- d) Since most of the retirees are settled in different parts of India quite far from the last place of posting submission of SAHAJ form at the last place of posting may be dispensed with. In case of Central & State Government pensioners, the surviving spouse submits the required documents to the disbursing bank which processes the case. This procedure, if adopted by CMPF, will bring a lot of relief to pensioners and their families.
- e) Claims should also be accepted at any office of Coal India or its subsidiaries nearest to the place of residence of pensioner.

- f) Some of the Banks are not permitting the pension account to be converted to a joint account of the pensioner and spouse (with former or survivor operation). Please issue instructions to all banks to allow this.
- g) We feel that the following documents are sufficient to process widow/widower pension.
- h) Death Certificate of pensioner
- i) Pension Payment Order
- j) Particulars of claimant such as address, Aadhar, PAN, Bank Account
- k) Photographs
- l) Employees Provident Fund Organisation has an Aadhar based online system for submission of claims. We request you to introduce such a system in CMPF also. Only then the purpose of social security, the prime objective of Provident Fund, will be served.
- m) Pension claims should be settled within a reasonable span of time, say 4-6 weeks, as the retired employees and their spouses are already advanced in age and should not be subjected to avoidable delays.

We feel the above stated measures can go in a long way to erase problem faced by spouses of deceased pensioners who are finding a lot of difficulties in complying with the present requirements for filling up the various statutory forms associated in the process.

In antipation of a favourable response from your end,

With Regards,



P.K.SINGH RATHOR  
Principal General Secretary

Encl: Copy of the above referred Letter no. AIACECENTRAL/2020/2 dated 6-1- 2020 (as Annexure-I)



**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.

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