



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. 9907434051

AIACE/CENTRAL/2020 / 067

Dated 9 -7-2020

To

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

SUB: Hassle free continuation of pension to spouses of deceased pensioners

Dear Sir,

Kindly recall our earlier letter no. AIACE/CENTRAL/2020 / 2 dt. 6.1.2020 attached herewith on the above subject. It is regretted that no action seems to have been initiated in this regard. As such we are compelled to reiterate, in brief, the contents of the said letter and request for initiating suitable reforms immediately so that spouses of pensioners find it easy to have pension started in their favour.

It is the fact that coal industry is a labour intensive industry. Most of the employees and their spouses may be termed as illiterate. Forms for getting pension are generally filled up during the life time of employees by way of assistance from different cross-section of people. Forms were also ill-designed some 50 years ago. The spouse of deceased pensioner is required to resubmit all the employee details which were already furnished earlier and available everywhere in the coal companies as well as CMPFO. Even an educated widow/widower finds it difficult to fill the various forms, and moreover, the requirement of processing the application form by the office last attended by the employee is quite frustrating and humiliating in the old age. In the past, when pension account has been made "Former or Survivor" type of account on the advice of CMPFO, it is ridiculous to ask a widow/widower settled in remote locations to come over all the way to the place of retirement say, Dhanbad from Kerala or Chennai for observing these formalities formulated in vintage times.

Under the circumstances, we are compelled to request your immediate intervention so that a suitable mechanism is developed for initializing pension in a respectable manner. The pension must start to the spouses of the pensioners if the death certificate is produced to the pension disbursing at the prescribed rate. This will also check the continuation of payment being made in the pensioners account bank and recovery from the spouse at later date.

The system should also be introduced in such a way that the spouse of deceased pensioner would get pension from the pension paying bank of the pensioner after submitting the following documents to the concerned pension paying Bank of the deceased pensioner:

- 1) Death certificate
- 2) PPO of deceased
- 3) Proof of relationship with the pensioner i.e. husband or wife
- 4) Proof of address for communication, if any
- 5) Certified copy of Bank passbook where pension will be credited
- 6) Recent photo of the spouse.

If needed, expertise of AIACE is always available, as offered in our earlier letter also.

We request you to consider the above points favourably.

With regards,



P.K.SINGH RATHOR
Principal General Secretary

CC:--

1. Chairman, Coal India Ltd, Kolkata.
2. CMD, Singreni Collieries company Ltd, Kothagudem, Telangana.

CC:--

1. The Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Govt of India, New Delhi :-- For necessary direction in the matter.
2. Copy for information -- The Coal Minister, Govt of India, New Delhi.
3. Copy for information – The Labour and Employment Minister, New Delhi

COPY



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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

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.*
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