



ALL INDIA ASSOCIATION OF COAL EXECUTIVES (AIACE)

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

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AIACE/CENTRAL/2020 / 120

Dated 5 -12-2020

To

Hon'ble Sri Pralhad Joshi Jee,

Minister of Coal

Govt of India, New Delhi.

Email-- officeofpralhadjoshiji@gmail.com

Sub: Adamant attitude of CMPFO leading to Compulsion of Proposed Dharna for Revision in modalities for Widow Pension and other reforms under CMPS-1998

Dear Sir,

All India Association of Coal Executives (AIACE) consist of members from Working and Superannuated executives belonging to Coal India and SCCL. We wish to compliment the government, specially the Ministry of Coal, for the excellent work being performed by it to meet the energy demands of our country and simultaneously working for welfare of families in coal sector.

For supporting the needs of post-retired life of workers in coal industry, a Pension scheme is managed and run in the name of CMPS-1998. Interestingly, whereas all the Pension schemes in different sector come under the ambit of Ministry of Labour and Welfare, the pension scheme for coal sector is under the purview of Ministry of Coal under whom Coal Mines Pension Fund Office (CMPFO) operate and oversee the disbursing of Pension.

As notified in Gazette Notification for implementation of CMPS-1998, after crossing a lot of hurdles in submitting various required forms for commencement of pension, an employee is able to receive his Pension Payment Order (PPO) which entitles him to pension benefits. The tragic saga is that, after death of a pensioner, the widow is also required to collect and submit similar papers to the office of last place of working of her husband. Many a times the widows are settled at far off distant remote place of the country, and moreover, the last place of working is also not physically traceable due to Merger-Demerger of units of coal companies. These factors coupled with ailing health condition of widows due to their age makes it rather impossible to comply with the various requirements which even a living intellectual will find difficult to re-submit. All these ridiculous requirements are only depriving the widows of their legitimate pension rights who opt to forgo their claims OR they fall a prey to spurious middlemen.

To sort out solution for these difficulties, we at AIACE had written various letters to Commissioner, CMPFO vide letter nos. AIACE/CENTRAL/2020 /002 dt. 6.1.2020 followed by another letter no. AIACE/CENTRAL/2020 /039 dt. 9.7.2020 on the above subject but they went on deaf ears. We are made to feel like "Playing music before buffalo."

There are other issues also like revision of pension and DA-linked pension, but, we cannot tolerate the harassment of widows in starting pension after death of their husbands. As such, to make voice heard at the corridor of Decision Makers, Member Pensioners are compelled to go for organising one day Dharna in February, 2021 in front of CMPFO office, Dhanbad along with proposed Relay Dharna at Jantar-Mantar in Delhi, on any day after this date, till our demands are acceded to.

In the light of above facts, we request your specific clear cut direction to concerned officials for making widows' pension hassle free and initiate action for enhancement of CMPS pension as CIL has decided to contribute Rs 10/te of coal to this fund for strengthening it.

It is also requested to constitute an empowered study team of Professionals to know the destitute and impoverished condition of those Pensioners, who have retired before 2007 and languishing at present in spite of their dedicated and best sincere efforts put during their service life to meet the nation's energy demand.

With regards,



P.K.SINGH RATHOR
Principal General Secretary

Cc

Secretary, Ministry of Coal, New Delhi
Commissioner, CMPFO, Dhanbad
Chairman, CIL
CMD, SCCL, Kothagudem