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# BHARAT PENSIONER

## भारत पेंशनर



OFFICIAL MONTHLY ORGAN OF THE BHARAT PENSIONERS SAMAJ, NEW DELHI - 110 014  
(Federation of All India Pensioners' Associations)

(Associate NGO, INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION ON AGEING, TORONTO, CANADA)

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S C Maheshwari Secy. Genl. Bharat Pensioners Samaj

**BHARAT PENSIONERS SAMAJ, NEW DELHI**  
(Federation of All India Pensioners' Associations), Regd No. S - 2023 of 1962 - 63.  
Niti Ayog Unique Identity No. = DL/2016/0102111)  
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Continued from page 2

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**BRIEF OF MEETING OF STANDING COMMITTEE OF NC - JCM Dated 26.02.2021**

No.Nc-JCM-2021/SC Dated : February 26, 2021

To

All the Member of Staff Side of

The National Council JCM

Dear Comrades,

As already informed to you the meeting of the Standing Committee of the NC - JCM was held today (i.e 26/02/2021) under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Personnel) DOPT. Apart from Additional Secretary DOPT and Additional Secretary Expenditure, Senior Officials from DOPT, Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Health and Department of Pension were present in the meeting. The Staff Side was represented by Comrades, M. Raghaviah, Shiva Gopal Mishra, N.Kanniah, Guman Singh, C.Srikumar, R.Srinivasan, R.P.Bhatnaga, K.S.Murty, R.N.Parasar. Comrades K. K N Kutty and Ch. Sankara Rao, attended the meeting through Video Conference. On behalf of the Staff Side the following important demands were raised by us in the meeting during the introductory remarks.

1. The Government of India without holding any discussion with the Staff Side has arbitrarily decided to Freeze the three Installment of DA due to the Central Government Employees and three Installment of DR due to the pensioners for 18 months and that this 18 months increased DA / DR will not be given back to the employees / pensioners. Such type of a decision is taken by the Government for the 1st time. Dearness Allowance is a part of the salary and DR is a part of the pension. This cannot be stopped arbitrarily. We protest against this decision of the Government and demand the DA /DR due from 1/1/2020, 1/7/2020 and 1/1/2021 may please be given in cash to the Central Government Employees and Pensioners immediately since the government is claiming that the economy of the country, has considerably increased. Moreover attention is drawn to the recent Judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 08/02/2021 where in Supreme Court has observed that salaries and pension are rightful entitlement of the Government employees and Government, which has delayed the payment of Salaries and Pension, should be directed to pay

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interest at an appropriate rate. Therefore there is no justification on the part of the government to freeze the DA of the employees and DR of the Pensioners and the same should be released immediately.

2. The National Joint Council of Action of Central Government Employees consisting of all the Constituent Organization of NC-JCM have issued a Notice on 20/01/2021 to the Cabinet Secretary with Copy to the Secretary DOPT for observing an Action Programme Call Attention Day on 01/02/2021. This programme was observed successfully by all the C G E through out the Country. However, it is unfortunate that neither the Government has convened any meeting with the Staff Side to discuss the demands nor responded to our letter. We protest against this unhelpful attitude. A meeting may be held with the Staff Side to discuss all the 13 Charter of Demands submitted by us.

3. Once again we are forced to mention here that inspite of the letters being written by the DOPT to the various Ministry and Departments the Departmental Council – JCM Meetings are not taking place. Holding of the JCM meetings at all level should be made statutory. The Secretaries of the Departments being the Chairman of the Departmental Council - JCM, it is a part of their duty to hold the meetings regularly as mandated in the JCM Scheme. Therefore this matter may be viewed seriously and appropriate remedial action may be taken to ensure regular holding of the Departmental Council JCM meetings.

4. Demands raised by the Staff Side in the meetings and after discussion wherever the official side have agreed to examine the case are being rejected without holding any discussion with the Staff side. Recent example is the case of Grant of 3rd MACP in GP Rs.4600 to the MCM of Defense Ministry holding the post as on 31/12/2005 has been rejected by the DOPT in violation of its own clarification and instructions on the subject. The Staff side is not convinced with the decision of the DOPT. We are once again submitting a detailed note in this regard giving all justification. The matter may be reconsidered by the DOPT. The Staff Side is ready to discuss the matter with DOPT. (a letter dated 25/02/2021 addressed to Additional Secretary DOPT is handed over to the Secretary DOPT and copy

on the subject matter was handed over to JS (E) of MOD).

5. The Demand of the Staff Side for restoration of Festival Advance was agreed in the last meeting. However no decision has been taken yet in the matter. We once again demand that one month basic pay of the employee may be granted as festival Advance to be recovered in ten Easy installments.

6. The request made by the staff side for extending the time limit for availing the LTC of the Block year of 2018-20 up to 31/12/2021, so that the employees who have booked their flight tickets and who were not able to travel due to cancellation of flight because of COVID-19 pandemic can avail the facility is not yet considered by the DOPT / Department of Expenditure. The same may be considered favorably.

7. Two recovery action initiated at the various C.G. Establishments including Railway and Defense has subjected the employees to undue financial hardship. The Night Duty Allowance paid in 6th CPC rates from 01/07/2017 is being recovered from the employees. Similarly the Transport Allowance paid to the employees during the Lock Down period is also being recovered. Both these recoveries action should be stopped and as already demanded by the Staff Side the NDA should be paid to all the employees who ever is deployed on Night Shift duty without any basic pay ceiling in accordance with the Supreme Court Judgment.

8. There are certain issues to be addressed by DOPT and Department of Expenditure with regard to LTC Special Package

a. The LTC special package benefit is not being extended to the employees recruited from 2012 onwards. The benefit may please be extended to them also

b. The condition that the employees should purchase such items avail such facilities which carry a GST rate of not less than 12% should be withdrawn

c. The additional burden of expenditure imposed on the employee may be withdrawn.

d. The time limit for availing this facility may be extended up to 31/12/2021.

9. Full reimbursement of the Medical Treatment incurred for COVID-19 treatment availed in the recognized / empanelled hospital may be ensured.

The accounts /Audit Authorities are disallowing a major portion of the Expenditure. This may be looked into

10. The Demand of the Staff Side for payment of compensation to the employees who died out of COVID 19 infection and immediate grant of Compassionate Appointment to the dependent is not yet considered by the Govt. This request may be considered favorably by the Government

11. In violation of the DOPT instructions under FR 17 (a) the employees who participated in a legal strike in the industrial Establishments under Ministry of Defense are being imposed with dies-non. Dies-non can be imposed only if the strike is declared illegal by the Labour Court. In a similar case the CGHS employees approached Delhi High Court and the high Court has ruled that dies-non cannot be imposed. Only As the principle of "no work no pay" can be imposed. The Ministry of Health have implemented the Judgment to the CGHS employees, the same benefit may be extended to the Defense Employees who participated in a legal strike. A reference of the MOD in this regard is pending with Ministry of Health. This issue needs to be settled since the employees are subjected to unnecessary hardship, since the dies-non period are not counted for various purpose including residence for promotion, MACP etc

Responding to the above points raised by the Staff Side Secretary DOPT assured that the points would be considered by the concerned Departments and if required separate meetings would be held with the Staff Side. There after discussion took place on the Action Taken Report of the old Agenda Points discussed in the Standing Committee meeting held on 07/03/2019. The important decisions taken on the Old Agenda Points are given below:-

2. Counting of full service of temporary casual labourers for pension and retirement benefits in Railways:

#### **DECISION**

Staff Side demanded that 100% of the Temporary Service and 50% of the Casual Service should be counted for the purpose of pension and other terminal benefits. The demand of the Staff Side would be examined

3. Implementation of 7th CPC recommendations - Upward of pay scales of various categories.

**DECISION**

As recommended by the High Level Committee orders are expected to be issued for Grade Pay of Rs.5400 on completion of 4 years' Service in Grade Pay of Rs. 4800 on nonfunctional basis to three categories of posts in the Railway Accounts Cadre {SSO(A/Cs)/ Sr. Travelling Inspector{A/Cs)/ Sr. Inspector (Stores A/Cs)} of Ministry of Railways. As regards up-gradation of posts of Chemical and Metallurgical Assistant (CMA), Chemical and Metallurgical Superintendent (CMS) and Assistant Chemist and Metallurgist (ACM) of the Chemical & Metallurgical Organization of Ministry of Railways would be considered separately

4. Extension of benefits of revised pension rules - 2016 in respect of pensioners of Central Government employees in autonomous bodies

**DECISION**

Separate meeting would be held with Staff Side

7. Removing the anomalous situation in the representation of JCM.

**DECISION**

The demand of the Staff Side to include all Group B Non - Gazetted employees in the JCM scheme would be considered by the DOPT

8. Opening of CGHS Dispensaries in Agra, Barrackpore (Kolkata) and Kochi.

**DECISION**

CGHS Dispensaries in the above places have been made functional. For opening CGHS dispensaries in new cities Staff Side may give fresh demand with details

9. Grant of one time option to CGHS beneficiaries to opt for entitlement as per their revised Pay in Pay Band

**DECISION**

The Staff Side have to give details for consideration

10. Provision of CGHS facility for life time to dependent / disabled/ mentally retarded children of Central Government Employees /Pensioners

**DECISION**

The matter would be reexamined

12. Revision of Ex-gratia to CPF/SRPF retirees

**DECISION**

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Information about the number of beneficiaries is being collected from CPAO and Banks. After receipt of the data a decision would be taken in the matter 21. MACP to the employees, who have completed 10/20/30 years on the date of their retirement.

**DECISION**

The Staff Side demanded that on the day of retirement if the employee completes the qualifying service required for MACP, then the employees should be granted the MACP benefit. Chairman stated that as a policy the demand is not acceptable. However after our insistence Chairman agreed to consider the matter.

**After the discussion on the old Agenda Points the following fresh Agenda points given in the Staff Side is taken up for discussion:**

1. Coverage under CCS (Pension) Rules 1972 in place of National Pension System to those Employees who are recruited to Central Government Service Based on the Employment notification issued during the year 2002, 2003 and selection process completed on or after 1/1/2004.

**DECISION**

The Department of Pension would study the demand of the Staff Side. And thereafter the issue would be further discussed with Staff Side

2. Non implementation of decision taken in the 7th CPC National Anomaly Committee meeting Held on 17/07/2018 on the Item No.4 on fixation of pay on Promotion

**DECISION**

The Staff Side reiterated their demand that 2 increments may be given while on promotion / MACP, since the present benefit of one increment on promotion / MACP is comparatively lesser than what was available during fifth and sixth CPC dispensation. After discussion Additional Secretary Expenditure assured to consider the demand.

3. Central Government Employees may be granted one more option to switch over to 7th CPC from a date subsequent to 25th of July 2016

**DECISION**

Additional Secretary Expenditure would further discuss the matter with the Staff Side

4. Accumulation of Earned Leave/Leave on Average Pay (LAP) beyond the ceiling of 300 days-reg.

**DECISION****Staff Side demanded the following:-**

- a. Industrial employees in the Defense ministry may be allowed to accumulate 300+15 days EL at par with other employees
- b. Empls may be allowed to accumulate more than 300 days EL while in service so that they can avail leave in case of any emergent situation and hence while restricting the encashment up to 300 days EL, accumulation may be permitted beyond that. Chairman assured that DOPT would consider the Demand of the Staff Side
5. Fixation of pay on promotion in 6th CPC Pay Structure - Deprivation of annual increment to those promoted prior to 31/12/2005, but relieved after 01/01/2006-reg.

**DECISION**

The issue would be discussed by the Additional Secretary Expenditure with Staff Side

7. Grant of increment on 1st January & 1st of July to those employees retiring on 30th June/31st of December - Apex Court order-reg.

**DECISION**

The Staff Side stated that since Govt has not accepted to extend the benefit of S C Judgment to similarly placed emplys 100s of Court cases are being filed through out the Country. Therefore to avoid the multiplicity of litigation, Govt may extend the benefit to all similarly placed emplys. After discussion Chairman agreed to reconsider the matter.

13. MEDICAL TREATMENT OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES / PENSIONERS AND ALSO FOR THE FAMILY MEMBERS OUTSIDE INDIA WHO ARE GOVERNED UNDER CGHS.

**DECISION**

Being a new demand it has to be considered separately by Health Ministry

14. TO ENSURE EFFECTIVE FUNCTIONING OF THE JOINT CONSULTATIVE MACHINERY.

**DECISION**

DOPT will issue a time table to all the ministries / Department to hold the meetings of the Departmental Council - JCM in accordance with the JCM Scheme

Yours fraternally,

Sd/- (Shiva Gopal Mishra) Secretary

**BPS - ASG WRITES**

No:IRTSA/CHQ/Memo.2021-5 Date:15.03.2021

**Director General (HR) Railway Board**

**Sub: Clarification regarding issuance of Privilege Pass Surrender Certificate (PPSC) and availing of Special Cash Package.**

Ref: 1) Rly Bd Lt No.E(W)2020/PSS-1/3, dt 04.03.2021

2) Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure O.M.No12(2)/2020/E-II.A, dated 10.03.2021

1) In Special Cash Package equivalent in lieu of Leave Travel Concession Fare for Central Govt Employees including Rly Employees, JCM Staff side and IRTSA made following demands,

a) Cash equivalent spending of the value of deemed LTC fare (instead of three times) may be permitted.  
b) Cash equivalent spending on deemed LTC fare may be permitted with GST registered vendors without linking it with any GST rates.

c) Cut-off date for final submission of bills 31.03.21 may please be extended up to 31.12.2021.

2) Instead of addressing above points, in the clarification issued on 04.03.21, Rly Bd came out with a rider stating that, "Surrender of Privilege Passes of 2020 and issuance of PPSC for the year 2020 is not permissible in the calendar year 2021".

3) Inpara-5 of Min of Fin, Dept of Exp OM No.F.No.12(2)/2020-EII(A) dt 12.10.20, it is clearly mentioned that, the Special Cash Package will be in force during the current financial year till 31.03.21. Hence Rly Bd's clarification violates M of Fin order.

4) Further in its clarification for 4th set of LTC in Query No. 4 of FAQ, Deptt of Expenditure vide their O.M.No12(2)/2020/E-II.A, dt 10.03.21, allowed employees to avail cash package for the year 2020 in 2021 (upto 31.03.21) even if the item is purchased after 31.12.20 but before 31.03.21. The order says that, "A newly recruited employee, whose LTC expires in December 2020 which remains unutilized, may be allowed to claim the cash package in lieu of that LTC till 31.03.2021." In similar principle Rlys should allow special cash package in lieu of surrender of privilege passes for the year 2020, even if PPSC is issued after 31.12.2020.

5) Many of the Zones, Divisions & PUs issued their local circulars and procedure orders very late, employees didn't get sufficient time to get PPSC before 31.12.2020.

6) Many teething issues beyond the control of employees during introduction of e-Privilege Pass/PTO in HRMS Module is another main cause for issue of delay in PPSC.

7) Scheme of optional 'All India Leave Travel Concession' (AILTC) facility, once in a block of four years (i.e. 2018-2021 onwards) on surrender of Privilege Passes was introduced in Rlys for the first time vide Rly Bd letter No.E(W)2017/PS5-1/3 dt 10.09.2018. Many of the Rlys & PUs haven't issued any procedure order to implement the scheme till now. Hence administration is not in readiness to implement the special cash package scheme in a short span of time.

8) Announcing 31.12.20 as cut-off date for PPSC through clarification dt 04.03.21 makes no logic. It has created different uneven conditions which cannot be settled logically and employees will be made to suffer,

a) Employees already availed Special Cash Package or Advance by surrendering passes of 2020 account, applying PPSC before 31.12.2020, but PPSC issued after 31.12.2020.

b) Employees already availed Special Cash Package or Advance by surrendering passes of 2020 account, but PPSC applied & issued after 31.12.20.

c) Empls issued PPSC after 31.03.21 for passes of 2020 a/c and their Special Cash Package application or Application for advance is under process.

d) Employees got PPSC after 31.03.2021 for passes of 2020 account, but waiting for submission along with expenditure vouchers.

9) Advancing the cut-off date from 31.03.2021 to 31.12.2020 on 04.03.2021 will not only put the employees in hardship, but the zones, divisions & PUs will also have administrative complications.

10) It is therefore requested to withdraw clarification issued on 04.03.2021 and demands mentioned in para-1 may please be agreed.

Thanking you Yours' faithfully,

HARCHANDAN SINGH, General Secretary.

Copy for Information with a request to please consider and recommend our submissions:

i) Secy Rly Bd, Rail Bhavan, New Delhi - 110001

#### BPS SG WRITES

NoSG/BPS/e-pass/2021/1 dt:08.03.21

DG(HR) Rly Bd

**Sub: Glitches in HRMS Module for e-Privilege/post retirement Passes and PTO.**

**Ref: Rly Bd No PC-VII/2020/HRMS/6 dt. 14.08.20 regarding B P S SG/BPS/e-pass/2020/01 dt. 20.08.20 & No BPS/SG/E PASS/03 dt:18.11.20**

Sir, Bharat Pensioners Samaj, regretfully, bring to your notice the following problems :

#### **Software problems:**

Even after 6 months since the launch of HRMS Module for e-Privilege/post retirement Passes and PTO. Smooth working of the Module/Portal could not be ensured:

Following glitches still exist: 1. Hundreds of eligible pens with 7<sup>th</sup> CPC PPOs are unable to register, due to glitches in the software & the help line too is unable to assist.

2. Pass clerks are unable to upload complete Data of Hundreds of those who have registered. The help line does not respond.

#### **B. Other difficulties:**

1. i) As per ARPAN's reports, as on 28.02.21, over 33000 revised 7<sup>th</sup> CPC PPOs are yet to be generated. Hence these pens will not be eligible for e-passes till their revised 7<sup>th</sup> CPC PPOs are generated.

ii) Hundreds of those pens, who have received revised 7<sup>th</sup> CPC PPOs, are not eligible to register as their PPOs have not been pushed into ARPAN.

iii) Lakhs of old age pens especially 'D' category rtd emplys are not internet savvy. They either do not have Smart phones or are unable to use these to register them-selves in HRMS Module for e-post retirement passes. For them, utilise this module will remain a distant dream.

Sir, in view of the situation explained in foregoing lines, it is requested : 1. that glitches in the software are rectified on priority. 2. dead lines is extended till soft ware is user friendly in all respects. 3. E- pass facilities for pens may be made optional so that those who are not internet savvy do not suffer.

It is suggested that in case of pens HRMS Module for e-post retirement passes be made optional.

Thanking you.

Yours truly,

S C Maheshwari

Copy for necessary action at their level please: To:

1. The ED (PC VII & HRMS), Rly Bd (For the kind attention of Sh Mahinder Kumar Gupta)

2. Dy Dir, Pay Commission-VII & HRMS Rly Bd (for the kind attention of Sh Jaya Kumar G)

3. Sh Manoj Kumar, GM/HRMS-Cris

**No SG/BPS/e-pass/2020/01 Dt : 20.08.2020 The ED (PC VII), Rly Bd**

**Sub : Guidelines for e-Privilege Pass/PTO Module of HRMS**

Ref:Rly Bd No PC-VII/2020/HRMS/6 dt. 14.08.2020

Sir, While welcoming the provision of e-Privilege/ Post retirement passes for which BPS has been representing right from 2009, under signed beg to bring following few points which may be taken care while drafting guide lines for e-post retirement complimentary passes.

1. All retirees have not joined RELHS. Also all RELHS card holders have not been issued 'UMID' cards. Any linkage to UMID/RELHS will pose problems.
2. Over 68000 pre 2016 retirees have not yet been issued revised 14 digit PPOs
3. As per item (v) of your letter under reference the complementary passes for retired employees in digital mode will be available tentatively w.e.f 1.10.20 and that the details of the scheme will be circulated in due course. Which is a welcome move? However, as per (iv) of your ltr, from 01.11.20 onwards, Passes/ PTOs will be available only in the digital form.
4. Our worry is that if from 1.11.20 passes will be available only in digital form then how the semi literate & illiterate retirees of erstwhile 'D' category will avail the post retirement complimentary pass facility. Similarly even in the higher rung those who are not conversant with digital system will face difficulty.

It is therefore, suggested that the provision of physical passes should also remain available for such beneficiaries.

Thanking you in anticipation

Yours truly,

S C. Maheshwari

Secy Genl. B P S

C/ To the DG (HR) Rly Board for n/a please.

**No.BPS/SG/E PASS/03 dt:18.11.20 Shri Jaya Kumar G Dpty Dir, Pay Commission-VII & HRMS Rly Bd**

**Sub: Launching of e-pass HRMS Module for Penrs & Continuation or issuance of Manual Complementary passes to Rly Penrs**

Ref: 1) GoI Min of Rlys (Rly Bd) No. PC-VII/2020/HRMS/6(Part) N D, dt: 16.11.20. 2) BPS No SG/BPS/

e-pass/2020/01 dt: 20.08.20. 3) BPS Secy for Rly Penrs No BPS/RP/NJP/M/12/20 dt: 17.11.20

Sir, While BPS appreciates Rly Bds effort to digitalize issuance of Rly Passes & it (BPS) will never cause any hinderance in country's progress towards paperless working.

However, in view of ground realities as brought out in B P S Lts No SG/BPS/e-pass/2020/01 dt 20.08.20 and BPS Secy for Rly Penrs No BPS/RP/NJP/M/12/20 dt: 17.11.20 (copies attached). It is once again requested that in case of Rly penrs make issuance of digital passes Optional so that those who are not conversant/comfortable with digital system are not put to inconvenience and resultantly are not deprived of the facility.

Hoping for symphathetic favourable consideration.

Thanking you,

With regards,

Truly yours,

S C Maheshwari

Secy Genl. B P S

Copy to DG(HR) and ED Pay commission VII & HRMS for n/a please S C Maheshwari S Genl, B P S

**File No. S.11030/11/2021-EHS GoI Min of H & F W Deptt of H & F W (EHS Sec) dt: 02.03.21 N D To , S h T K D a m o d a r a n , C h e n n a i , ( [tkdpodual@gmail.com](mailto:tkdpodual@gmail.com)**

**Sub: Extn of CGHS facilities to beneficiaries outside India.**

Sir, I am directed to refer to your email dt 06.02.21 on the above noted sub and to say that your petition has been examined in the Min. As per rule 11 of CS(MA) Rules, 1944, a Govt Servant and his/her family members are eligible to obtain medical treatment outside India or, as the case may be, to claim reimb of the cost of medical treatment obtained inside or outside India. It is, therefore, evident that the term 'Govt Servant', denotes all serving cenl govt emplyes (CGHS as well as CSMA beneficiaries). Hence, the provisions of CS(MA) Rules, 1944 are applicable in case of serving Centl Govt emplys. Further, as CS(MA) Rules are not applicable to penrs, provisions relating to treatment abroad are not applicable in their case.

2. This issues with the approval of competent authority. (Sandeep Kumar) Under Secy to GoI

### **Gangwar Releases Compendium on Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers**

Union Minister of State (I/C) for Labour & Employment Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar today released the Compendium on Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (Volume I-IV, 1945 to 2020). Speaking on the occasion, Shri Gangwar said, digitization of historical data on CPI-IW for more than seven decades in the shape of compendium will bridge the data gap on the subject & it will be an inspiration to other agencies compiling price indices or other statistics to follow the suit. He said, the Compendium is a first of its kind publication and is being released at a time when the Labour Bureau, a pioneer public institute in this country on index compilation and labour statistics, is celebrating the centenary year of its formation. It contains detailed and comprehensive information and explanations on compiling consumer price index (CPI). Labour Bureau began compiling the index since 1945. Collating index at one place right from its inception till date in the form of a compendium was keenly felt keeping in view the interests of a variety of institutional and individual stakeholders.

There had been a number of Consumer Price Index series available in the country from time to time for specific purposes and almost every series had undergone a periodic revision. In old times, the series published had limited reach to related agencies and were also available only at aggregated level. With a view to fulfilling the demand of the users, Labour Bureau started publishing Annual Report on Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers from 1995, providing subgroup index for every centre. Taking this further, bringing all information on CPI for Industrial Workers on base 1944, 1949, 1960, 1982 and 2001 together at one place in the form of compendium will be of great importance for the researchers and policy makers. Secy, Labour & Employment Shri Apurva Chandra said, that the compendium on consumer price index for industrial workers is a milestone achieved by the Labour Bureau & it will open a new prism to analysis on price index and related subject. He said, the compendium envelops index numbers at broad group levels for individual centres and All-India.

The information ranges from interim series of 1944 and 1949 to 1960 to 1982 and to the latest gone by series of base 2001 for the period Jan., 1945 to Aug, 2020. The huge amount of data in terms of time and space dictated us to split this compendium in four volumes. Every volume encapsulates chapters introducing the readers with general characteristics of the CPI elaborating both the theory and the practice of index compilation. It also throws light on the chronological developments of the CPI-IW index compiled by the Labour Bureau since its inception. In the appendix, tables presenting index figures of the series at broad group levels have been provided. The first volume has chapters related to interim series and index data on base 1944 and 1949 for the period Jan, 1945 to Mar, 1954 and for Apr, 1954 to July, 1968 respectively. The second volume provides index data on 1960 series for the period Aug, 1968 to Sept, 1988. The third and fourth volume gives the similar information on base 1982 for the period Oct, 1988 to Dec, 2005 and on base 2001=100 for Jan, 2006 to Aug, 2020. The quantum of information on CPI-IW at one place in the form of this compendium will serve as a reference for researchers, policy makers, students, etc. interested in understanding price indices and inflation trends. Dir Genl of Labour Bureau, Shri D.P.S. Negi said that the compendium on CPI-IW, the mainstay of Labour Bureau India, is the beginning of digitization process of data on labour and price statistics stored in its warehouse. He said the Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers is being compiled by the Labour Bureau since 1945. In the very beginning, it was known as Working Class Cost of Living Index Numbers which later in May, 1955 following the decision of the Indian Labour Conference changed to Consumer Price Index Numbers for Working Class to remove the confusion that the indices measure the change in retail prices paid by the working class consumers for goods and services entering into the average family consumption in the base period and do not indicate the changes in actual cost of living due to causes other than price changes.

The Consumer Price Index is the most used out of the numerous statistical products that are currently available to the common man. For millions of

individuals whose wages are linked to a consumer price index series, the index is almost a household word. The extent to which their real wages are protected from erosion on account of price rises depends on the quality and reliability of the consumer price index series. As such, it becomes necessary to examine critically the consumer price index numbers that are currently being published and used with a view to assuring the users of their reliability and also standardizing the concepts and methods of compilation.

The history of compilation & maintenance of CPI for industrial Workers owes its origin to the deteriorating economic condition of the workers on account of abnormal rise in prices following the World War I. As a result of sharp rise in prices and the cost of living, some Provincial Govts started conducting Family Budget Enquiries and compilation of Working Class Cost of Living Index Consumer Price Index Numbers for Industrial Workers in the country. But none of them was entirely satisfactory.

The interim series of working class cost of living index was categorized into Labour Bureau series and State series. The Labour Bureau series was on common base 1944=100 whereas State series were based on varying bases. They were brought on common base in consonance with Labour Bureau series to compile an All-India series late in 1952 but soon after it was revised to another base of 1949 through arithmetic shifting. The Interim series on base 1944 had 24 centres which increased to 27 in base 1949 after adding three more State series. The interim series remained in use till July, 1968 when new series on uniform base as 1960 got ready to use in August, 1968.

In pursuance of the recommendations made by the Rau Court of Enquiry, the job of compilation & maintenance of CPI for Industrial Workers was taken over by the Central Govt. in 1941. However, the compilation of index numbers on uniform and scientific lines was started only after the conduct of the Family Living Survey by the Labour Bureau during 1958-59 at 50 important industrial centres, spread over length and breadth of the country, under the guidance of the Technical Advisory Committee on Cost of Living Index Numbers and

compilation of Consumer Price Index Numbers for Industrial Workers on base 1960=100. Since then the compilation and maintenance of Consumer Price Index Numbers are being done by the Labour Bureau on a continuous basis. The series was revised twice on base 1982 equal to 100 and 2001 equal to 100 and remain in effect from October, 1988 to December, 2005 and January, 2006 to August 2020 respectively.

The Labour Bureau is the competent authority under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 to ascertain, from time to time, the Consumer Price Index Numbers applicable to employees employed in the Scheduled employments in respect of all the undertakings in the Central Sphere and the Union Territories.

Many methodological improvements introduced in survey and sampling, schedule designing and canvassing, data cleaning and tabulation, weights derivation and average price calculation and index computation enhanced the reliability of the index. The revised series was always broader in scope and coverage in comparison to earlier series and some of the salient features and improvements are elucidated as under-

In 1960 series, coverage of industrial workers was limited to 3 sectors namely Factories, Mines and Plantations.

It was extended to 7 sectors in 1982 for conducting Working Class Family Income & Expenditure Survey by including four more sectors viz. i) Railways, ii) Public Motor Transport Undertakings, iii) Electricity Generating and Distributing Establishments, and iv) Ports and Docks. The same set of sectors was again covered in 2001 series.

Number of working class families covered in the survey for collecting information on income and expenditure was increased from 23,460 families in 1960 to 32,616 families in 1982 and to 41,040 families in 2001.

Number of centres was increased from 50 in 1960 series to 70 in 1982 and to 78 in 2001 series.

Number of markets also increased from 142 in 1960 to 226 in 1982 and to 289 in 2001 series.

Number of items retained in index basket increased from 175 in 1960 to 260 in 1982 and to 392 in 2001 series.

In 1982 and 2001 series, the weight for ration price is determined on the basis of actual availability of

the rationed items in the ration shops as against the criterion of admissibility adopted in old series. The housing index of self-owned houses was calculated on the basis of rent movement of comparable rented houses in subsequent series as against the rent index kept frozen at 100 in the old series.

Since the release of 2001 series in March, 2006, various Central Trade Unions had been pressing for a review of these index numbers by a high powered tripartite Committee. Accordingly, the Min of Labour & Emplty constituted an Index Review Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. G.K. Chadha, a member of P M's Eco Advisory Council in Nov, 2006 to review and report on various aspects of CPI-IW including methodology for deriving the weighting diagram, methods of compilation and linking factor, to study and report on the existing price collection procedures and machinery of price collection and to make recommendations for further improvement. The Committee after detailed discussions and deliberations on various aspects of the index, made certain recommendations to be incorporated in the next revision of the series which were duly included in the new series on base 2016=100 launched in Sep, 2020.

**COVID Vaccination in r/o ECHS Beneficiaries for above 60 years and age Gp of 45 years to 59 years with co-morbidities | - March 08, 2021**

Central Organisation ECHS Integrated HQ of MoD (Army) Adjutant General's Branch Thimayya Marg Near Gopinath Circle Delhi Cantt-110010 B/49762/AG/ECHS/2021 01 Mar 2021

IHQ of MoD (Navy)/Dir ECHS (N)

Air HQ (VB)/DPS

HQ Southern Command (A/ECHS)

HQ Eastern Command (A/ECHS)

HQ Western Command (A/ECHS)

HQ Central Command (A/ECHS)

HQ Northern Command (A/ECHS)

HQ South Western Command (A/ECHS)

HQ Andaman & Nicobar Command (A/ECHS)

All Regional Centres

Covid Vaccination in R/O ECHS Beneficiaries for above 60 years and age GP of 45 years to 59 years with co-morbidities

1. Please ref fwg :-

(a) COECHS letter No B/49762/AG/ECHS dt 10 Feb 2021 (Copy att).

(b) Prevailing guidelines on COVID vaccination by Gol for general public above the age gp of 45 years wef 01 Apr 2021.

2. As all ECHS Polyclinics will act as COVID Registration Facilitation Centres for providing assistance to ECHS beneficiaries, you are requested to promulgate following directions to all Polyclinics:-

(a) All ECHS Polyclinics should earmark one / two computer with internet facility which is already existing at Polyclinics for facilitating registration to ECHS beneficiaries.

(b) OIC, ECHS Polyclinic will be responsible for training of ECHS Polyclinic staff / DEO wrt registration process. User manual for the same is att as Appendix 'A'.

(c) Medical Officer of ECHS Polyclinic should provide medical certificate to ECHS beneficiaries of age group of 45 years to 59 years with co-morbidities.

3. List of co-morbidities and format of Medical Certificate are as at Appendices 'B' & 'C'.

4. Leftover unregistered ECHS Polyclinic Staff will also be registered under COWIN 2.0 portal as per guidelines given in Appendix 'D'.

5. For your info and necessary action please.

(Panchal Kalpeshkumar S)

Lt Col Jt Dir (Med) for MD ECHS

Encls : As above.

Internal

Stats & Automation Sec" – for uploading this letter on ECHS website.

Central Organisation ECHS Integrated HQ of MoD (Army) Adjutant General's Branch Thimayya Marg Near Gopinath Circle Delhi Cantt-110010 B/49762/AG/ECHS 10 Feb 2021

IHQ of MoD (Navy)/Dir ECHS (N)

Air HQ (VB)/DPS

HQ Southern Command (A/ECHS)

HQ Eastern Command (A/ECHS)

HQ Western Command (A/ECHS)

HQ Central Command (A/ECHS)

HQ Northern Command (A/ECHS)

HQ South Western Command (A/ECHS)

HQ Andaman & Nicobar Command (A/ECHS)

Advisory : Covid vaccination in R/o ECHS beneficiaries in age GP above 50 Yrs and with comorbidities

1. In view of COVID-19 pandemic scenario and COVID vaccination drive which has been started on 16 Jan 2021 initially with Health Care Workers, then for Front Line Workers and subsequently likely to begin for general public in Mar / Apr 2021.

2. COVID vaccination for general public will involve people above the age of 50 years and with comorbidities (deemed to be in greater risk of severity).

3. Registration is required through Co-Win App in website (www.cowin.gov.in) for each and every citizen of India for getting vaccinated. All the ECHS Polyclinics will act as COVID Registration Facilitation Centres for providing assistance to senior, super senior ECHS beneficiaries and widows who are not technology savvy in the registration process.

4. In view of the above, it is requested that following manpower may be provided to each Polyclinic from the respective formations as and when the Co-Win App is open for general public. The manpower provided should be capable of filling the details sought by App in consultation with veterans who need such assistance :-

S No	Type of Polyclinics	Clk / DEO
(a)	Type 'A' ECHS Polyclinic	05
(b)	Type 'B' ECHS Polyclinic	04
(c)	Type 'C' ECHS Polyclinic	03
(d)	Type 'D' ECHS Polyclinic	02

9. This is for issuing necessary directions to respective formations under your AOR for needful. (Anupam N Adhulia) Col Dir (Med) for MD ECHS

**Principal Controller of Defence Account**

Principal Controller of Defence Accounts (Central Command) Cariappa Road, Lucknow Cantt. – 226002 (Through website/email) No: AN/IV/Pay/Circular/2020-21 Dt 2nd March 2021

To

The Officer-in-charge All Sections Main Office All Sub Offices under the PCDA (CC) Lucknow

**Sub: Deduction of Income Tax for the FY 2021-22. Option for Calculation of Income Tax under Old Tax Regime or New Tax Regime: Clarification by PCDA – Message No. 04/2021**

BHARAT PENSIONER

As per Section 192 of Income Tax Act – ‘Any salary disbursing authority shall, at the time of Payment, deduct income tax on the amount payable at the average rate of Income Tax computed on the basis of the rates of Tax in force or the financial year in which payment is made, on the estimated income of the assessee under this Head for the Financial Year.’

On account of aforesaid provisions and in order to avoid last hour rush at the end of the Financial Year, it is directed that the Income Tax in the FY 2021-22 may be deducted following manner ...

i) Income Tax deduction will be started in the Pay bill of the month of 03/2021 based on 1/12 of the Tax liability of the previous year i.e. 2020-21 considering saving as per previous year. However IT deducted from arrears due to Pay Fixation/MACP/NFU can be excluded from said assessment.

ii) During the financial year 2021-22, if any arrear of pay will be paid, IT will be deducted as per slab of the officer/Individual at the time of payment.

View: TDS and Tax on Salary Section 192 FY 2020-21 AY 2021-22 – Income Tax Circular No. 20/2020

iii) The deduction of Income Tax from RPB may be changed at any time as per request of the Officer/individual but only upon receipt of valid proof of saving documents.

iv) Proof of saving during current financial year may be collected along with Form 12BB, Annexure-IIA by concerned sub office/Sections of Main office and forwarded to this section/office with covering letter on fortnightly basis (i.e. 5th and 20th of every month) required. The same can also be forwarded through official e-mail ID and will be accepted.

v) Final calculation of Income Tax of FY 2021-22 will be done by this section in the month of November -2021 and accordingly Income Tax deduction will be changed as per Income Tax Liability actual showing in Pay Slip of this Financial Year.

PCDA has seen.

Encls: Form -12BB, Annexure-IIA

-SA- Accounts Officer AN-IV

## Annexure IIA

## FORM NO.12BB

(See rule 26C)

Statement showing particulars of claims by an employee for deduction of tax under section 192

1. Name and address of the employee:
2. Permanent Account Number or Aadhaar number of the employee:
3. Financial year:

## Details of claims and evidence thereof

Sl. No.	Nature of Claim	Amount (Rs.)	Evidence Particulars
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)

1. House Rent Allowance
  - (i) Rent paid to the landlord
  - (ii) Name of the landlord
  - (iii) Address of the landlord
  - (iv) Permanent Account Number or Aadhaar number, as the case may be, of the landlord

Note: Permanent Account Number or Aadhaar number, shall be furnished if the aggregate rent paid during the previous year exceeds one lakh rupees

2. Leave Travel concessions or assistance
3. Deduction of interest on borrowing
 

Interest payable/paid to the lender

Name of the lender

Permanent Account Number or Aadhaar number of the lender

  - (a) Financial Institutions (if available)
  - (b) Employer if available
  - (c) Others
4. Deduction under Chapter VI-A
  - (A) Section 80C, 80CCC and 80CCD
    - (i) Section 80C
      - (a) .....
      - (b) .....
      - (c) .....
      - (d) .....
      - (e) .....
      - (f) .....
      - (g) .....

(ii) Section 80CCC

BHARAT PENSIONER

(iii) Section 80CCD

(B) Other sections (e.g. 80E, 80G, 80TTA. etc.) under Chapter VI-A

- (i) Section .....
- (ii) Section .....
- (iii) Section .....
- (iv) Section .....
- (v) Section .....

## Verification

I .....son/daughter of .....do hereby certify that the information given above is complete and correct.

Place .....

Date ..... (Signature of the employee)

Designation ..... Full Name

**National Pension System: Grant of provisional benefits on death/disability of Railway servants covered under NPS - March 01, 2021**

GoI Ministry of Rlys Rly Bd No. D-43/4/2018-F(E)III New Delhi. dt: 19.02.2021.

The General Managers/Principal Financial Advisors, All Zonal Railways/Production Units.

**Sub: Grant of provisional benefits on death/disability of Railway servants covered under National Pension System (NPS) – reg.**

Attention is invited to Bd's letter of even number dt 20.01.2020 vide which clarification was issued providing that Rly servant/family member in the case of death of Rly servant or his discharge from service on account of invalidation/disability is entitled to pension/family under old pension scheme under Rly Services (Pension)/ Rules 1993, if the Rly servant/family wants to. Also, the entire accumulated pension funds under NPS may be recovered from him/family with interest for the period from the date of receipt of entire accumulated pension wealth to subscriber under NPS to the date of refund to the Govt at the rate and manner applicable to GPF deposits from time to time.

Old Pension Scheme for central govt employees! See Finance Ministry's reply on OPS, NPS

2. Now, references have been received in this office stating that some of the depts family members of the deceased employees under NPS are not in a position to surrender the entire accumulated NPS corpus in one go. it has been requested that the dependent family members of the deceased Rly

employees may be given option to return the accumulated NPS corpus of the employee in installments and from the arrears of the family pension instead of depositing the entire accumulated NPS corpus with interest.

3. The above issues have been examined in consultation with Deptt of pension & Penrs' Welfare (DOP&PW) the nodal Deptt of the Govt in pensionary matters. It is clarified that in case, the Rly servant or family has already availed benefits from accumulated pension corpus, the same may be recovered from them with interest. The accumulated pension corpus along with interest may be adjusted from the arrears of pension/family pension or any other method while ensuing at the same time that there is no loss to the Railways.

(G. Priya Sudarsani) Director Finance (Estt.) Rly Bd

**No. 3(6)/2021-P&PW(H)-7083 GoI Ministry of Personnel & Public Grievance Deptt of Pension and penrs' Welfare New Delhi, dt: 9th March, 2021**  
**Subject:—Timely payment of retirement benefits to the retiring employees**

The undersigned is directed to say that timelines have been prescribed under the CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972 for each activity involved in the processing of a pension case and for payment of pension and gratuity to a retiring Govt servant. As per this timeline, the process of verification of service and other preparatory work should be undertaken one year before a Govt servant is due to retire on superannuation, the Govt servant should submit the forms six months before retirement, the Head of Office should send the pension case to the PAO four months before retirement and the PAO should issue PPO and send it to CPAO one month before retirement. The CPAO is required to issue the Special Seal Authority within 21 days, thereafter.

2. Instructions have been issued vide this Deptt's OM No1/27/2011-P&PW(E)dt 01.08.17 for handing over the copy of penr PPO to him/her at the time of retirement along with other retirement dues. The Rules also provide for sanction of provisional pension in cases where a Govt servant is likely to retire before finalization of his pension and gratuity.

3. 'BHAVISHYA', the online Pension Sanction & Payment Tracking System, facilitates online

tracking of pension sanction and payment process by the individual as well as the administrative authorities and keeps the retiring employees informed of the progress of pension sanction process through SMS/E-Mail. The system is, therefore, very useful for ensuring timely payment of pensionary benefits to the retiring Govt servant.

4. In spite of the timelines prescribed in the rules/instructions and simplification/streamlining of the procedures through BHAVISHYA, issue of the PPO and payment of retirement benefits continue to be delayed in a large number of cases. A significant percentage of the grievances registered on the CPENGRAMS relate to non payment of retirement dues for several months after retirement. Delay in settlement of retirement dues also leads to avoidable litigation. In a number of cases, the courts have directed payment of interest for the delayed period to the affected pensioners, besides making adverse comments on the functioning of the administration.

5. In order to ensure timely payment of retirement dues in all cases, it has been decided that the progress of the pension cases should be regularly monitored by the Heads of the 2 organizations and the Heads of Deptts. An effective monitoring mechanism is required to be established in every office/Deptt to review the progress of processing of the pension cases. The information available from the BHAVISHYA software may be utilized for this purpose.

6. Farewell programs are often organized in the offices on the occasion of retirement of employees. This is one of the most appropriate occasions that can be utilized to review the progress of the pension cases and to sensitize the concerned staff about the importance of timely payment of retirement dues. Accordingly, in every farewell function, Heads of organizations/Deptts/offices may review the progress of pension cases of all the employees of that organization/Deptt/office, who are due for retirement in the next six months. Wherever the processing of any pension case is found to be behind schedule, proactive action must be taken to ensure that all retirement dues are paid on time to the retiring Govt servant.

7. A half-yearly statement may be submitted by each Deptt/organization/office to the Secy of the

administrative Min/Deptt indicating the particulars of the Govt servants in whose case issue of PPO was delayed by more than two months after retirement on superannuation. The statement may also contain the reasons for the delay in issuing the PPO and remedial action taken to avoid such delays in future.

8. All the Ministries/Deptts are requested to bring the above instructions to the notice of the offices/field organizations under their administrative control for strict compliance.

(Rajesh Kumar) Under Secretary to the GoI  
To,

1. Admin Division of all Ministries/Deptts of Govt. of India:-for strict compliance.

2. NIC: to upload in the website of this Deptt

**No. 27-10/2020-PO GoI Min of Communications Deptt of Posts (PO Division) New Delhi - 110001 dt: 19.02.2021 To All Chief Postmasters General Sub: Regarding facility of SMS to the pensioners after verification of Digital Life Certificate by the Pension Disbursing Agency.**

This is regarding the facility of SMS to the penrs after verification of Digital Life Certificate by the Pension Disbursing Agency.

2. Earlier, the SMS containing Jeevan Pramaan ID was being sent to the penrs at the time of regn of Digital Life Certificate at HOs working as Jeevan Pramaan Centres. But there was no provision to send SMS informing the penr about the status of their DLCs after the verification (success or failure) by the respective PDA. In case of failure of DLC penr could get to know about the same only after the discontinuation of the pension credit.

3. To facilitate the pensioner and avoid such inconvenience to pensioners, the provision of sending SMS to the pensioners in both cases of success or failure after verification of their DLC by PDA has been implemented and streamlined.

4. Therefore, it is requested to bring the information to the notice of all DDOs and all penrs including the penr's assns in Circles/Regions and Divisions for dissemination of information in public interest.

5. This issues with the approval of competent authority.

(Sukriti Gupta)  
ADG(PO)

**No. 1/1/2020-E-II(B) GoI Ministry of Finance Deptt of Expenditure North Blk, New Delhi dt: 23.04.2020**

**Sub: Freezing of Dearness Allowance to Central Govt employees and Dearness Relief to Central Govt penrs at current rates till July 2021.**

The undersigned is directed to say that in view of the crisis arising out of Covid-19, it has been decided that the additional installment of Dearness Allowance payable to Central Govt employees and Dearness Relief to Central Govt penrs, due from 1.1.20 shall not be paid. The additional instalments of Dearness Allowance and Dearness Relief due from 1.7.20 and 1.1.21 shall also not be paid. However, Dearness Allowance and Dearness Relief at current rates will continue to be paid.

2. As and when the decision to release the future installment of Dearness Allowance and Dearness Relief due from 1st July 2021 is taken by the Government, the rates of Dearness Allowance and Dearness Relief as effective from 1st January 2020, 1st July 2020 and 1st January 2021 will be restored prospectively and will be subsumed in the cumulative revised rate effective from 1st July 2021. No arrears for the period from 1st January 2020 till 30th June 2021 shall be paid.

3. These orders shall be applicable to all Central Government employees and Central Government pensioners.

(Annie George Mathew)

Additional Secretary to the Government of India

**Bank Employees Wages Settlement - Demand of the bank employees/retired bank employees for revision of pension Central Govt Employees - March 17, 2021**

GoI Ministry of Finance Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No: 3172 Answered on: 15.03.2021

Bank Employees Wages Settlement Thalikkottai Rajuthevar Baalu Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the long pending demand of the bank employees/retired bank employees for revision of pension periodically along with wage settlement is under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in the matter; and

(c) whether the banks and the Govt are not accepting the demand and if so, the reasons therefor?

Answer Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (a) to (c): Pension to penrs of nationalised banks is financed by the respective bank out of its commercially generated revenue. Such pension was introduced as a funded scheme on the basis of consensus arrived at between bank employee unions/associations and the Indian Banks' Assn, which negotiated on behalf of participating banks. The Boards of the respective nationalised bank accordingly made Employees' Pension Regulations in exercise of their powers under Section-19 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970/1980.

The Indian Banks' Association has recommended recently that family pension be improved to 30% for all employees, without any cap, and the same is under consideration of the Government.

As regards wages in banks, the same are settled on the basis of settlements arrived at every five years between bank employee unions and the Indian Banks' Association, which negotiates on behalf of participating banks. Following the recent bipartite settlement, Govt has conveyed its no objection to the Indian Banks' Assn advising banks to pay an ad-hoc amount of arrears, revised salary and allowances to serving employees, and revised pension and arrears to pension optees who have retired on or after 1.11.2017.

**Letter on Pay Fixation of Ex-servicemen re-employed in PSBs - March 09, 2021**

GoI Min of Fin Deptt of Financial Services Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No.1647 to be Answered on 9.3.2021(Tuesday)/ Phalguna 18, 1942 Saka

Letter on Pay Fixation of Ex-Servicemen Re-Employed in PSBs 1647. Shri Narain Dass Gupta: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether Govt has received any letter on the issue of pay fixation of ex-servicemen re-employed in the Public Sector Banks from All India Ex-servicemen Bank Employees Federation to seek an appointment to discuss the issues raised therein; (b) if so, the action initiated to resolve the issues; (c) whether any committee has been constituted to resolve the issues, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether representatives of the All India Ex-Servicemen Bank Employees Federation have also been included in the Committee?

Answer the Minister of State in The Ministry of Finance (Shri Anurag Singh Thakur)

(a) to (d): The Govt has received representations from All India Ex-servicemen Bank Employees Federation from time to time, inter-alia, relating to pay fixation of Ex-servicemen re-employed in Public Sector Banks (PSBs). The suggestions relating to pay fixation were examined in consultation with Indian Banks Association (IBA), Deptt of Personnel and Training (DoPT), Ministry of Defence (MOD), and Deptt of Public Enterprises (DPE), and it was observed that these were not in line with the existing IBA guidelines on the subject and the same was communicated to the Federation.

**Freezing of DA - as and when released due from 01.07.2021 to be restored prospectively - March 09, 2021**

Freezing of DA – as and when released due from 01.07.2021 to be restored prospectively Government of India Ministry of Finance Department of Expenditure

Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1669 To be answered on Tuesday, 9th March, 2021 Phalguna 18, 1942 (Saka) Freezing of DA 1669: Shri Naranbhai J. Rathwa:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state: a) whether freezing of Dearness Allowance (DA) to Central Government employees/pensioners till July, 2021 has subjected them to undue hardship; b) if so, the reasons for not restoring DA to Central Govt Employees and penrs before July, 2021; and c). whether Central Govt employees and penrs are not entitled to three installments of DA and, if so, whether Govt would also release these installments and, if not, reasons therefor?

Answer Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Shri Anurag Thakur)

(a.& b) In view of the crisis arising out of COVID-19 pandemic, the Govt has decided to freeze three installments of Dearness Allowance and Dearness Relief to Centl Govt emplys and penrs due from 01.01.20, 01.07.20 & 01.01.21. The amount Rs.37530.08 crores saved on this account will help

to tide over the economic impact of COVID-19 pandemic

(c) As and when the decision to release the future installments of Dearness Allowance due from 01.07.21 is taken, the rates of DA as effective from 01.01.20, 01.07.20 and 01.01.21 will be restored prospectively and will be subsumed in the cumulative revised rates effective from 01.07.21.

**Setting up of CGHS Wellness Centres: Criteria, list of CGHS Wellness Centres / Hospitals in the country and details about beneficiaries of Rajasthan State**

Govt of India Ministry of Health and Family Welfare  
Department of Health and Family Welfare

Lok Sabha

Unstarred Question No. 2899 to be Answered on 12th March, 2021

Setting up of CGHS Wellness Centres 2899. Shri Bhagirath Choudhary:

Shri Sumedhanand Saraswati:

Shrimati Poonamben Maadam:

Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the criteria fixed to set up dispens/hospitals under Centl Govt Health Scheme (CGHS) in the country along with the details thereof;

(b) the details of the dispensaries/hospitals currently functional under CGHS in the country, location-wise and State-wise;

(c) the total number of beneficiaries who received treatment under CGHS facility in Rajasthan under the said scheme during the last five years along with the district-wise details of the beneficiaries thereof;

(d) whether the Govt has made any assessment with regard to availability of CGHS dispens in various cities in proportion to the number of eligible beneficiaries, if so, the details and the outcome thereof along with the corrective steps taken by the Govt thereon;

(e) whether the Government proposes to set up new dispensaries/hospitals in the districts with more than 1000 beneficiaries under CGHS; and

(f) if so, the time by which these dispensaries/hospitals are likely to be set up?

ANSWER

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and

Family Welfare (Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey)

(a): The norms for opening a new Wellness Centre under CGHS are as under:-

I. In an existing CGHS City:-

For opening a new CGHS Wellness Centre in an existing CGHS City, there has to be a minimum of 2000 Card holders (serving employees of Central Government and Central Civil Pensioners).

II. Extension of CGHS to a new City:-

For extension of CGHS to a new City, there has to be a minimum of 6000 Card holders.

Opening of new CGHS Wellness Centre(s) is considered as per extant norms & subject to availability of resources.

(b): A statement showing CGHS Wellness Centres / Hospitals in the country is at Annexure-I.

(c): A statement showing total number of beneficiaries who received treatment under CGHS facility in Rajasthan during the last five years is at Annexure-II.

(d): No such assessment has been done.

(e) & (f): Presently, there is no such proposal

**Annexure-I**

**State/UT-wise and city-wise details of CGHS Wellness Centres in the country**

State/ Union Terri- tory	City	Allo- pathic Dispen- sary	Ayush Units	Poly Clinics	cghs Hosp -itals
Andhra	Guntur	1			
Pradesh	Nellore	1			
	Rajahmundry	1			
	Vijayawada	1			
	Visakhapatnam	2			
Assam	Guwahati	5	1		
	Dibrugarh	1			
	Silchar	1			
Bihar	Chappra	1			
	Darbhangha	1			
	Gaya	1			
	Muzzafarpur	1			
Chhat- tisgarh	Patna	5	1	1	
	Raipur	2	1		
Delhi Ayush)	Delhi	87	34	4	4 (1
Goa	Panaji	1			
Gujarat	Ahmedabad	8	2	1	

	Gandhinagar	1				Tamil Nadu	Chennai	14	4	2
	Vadodara	1					Tiruchirapalli	1		
Haryana	Ambala	1					Tirunalveli	1		
	Faridabad*	2				Telangan	Hyderabad	13	6	2
	Gurgaon*	2	1				Agartala	1	1	
	Sonapat*	1				Tripura	Dehradun	3		
Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	1				Uttarakhand				
J&K (ut)	Jammu	2				Uttar Pradesh	Agra	1		
	Srinagar	1					Prayagraj	7	2	1
Jharkhand	Dhanbad	1					Aligarh	1		
	Ranchi	3	3				Baghpat	1		
Karnataka	Bengaluru	10	3	1			Bareilly	1		
Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram	3	2				Ghaziabad*	1		
	Kochi	1					Gorakhpur	1		
	Kannur	1					Greater Noida*	1		
	Kozhikode	1					Indirapuram*	1		
Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	2	1				Kanpur	9	3	
	Gwalior	1					Lucknow	9	3	1
	Jabalpur	5	1				Meerut	6	2	
	Indore	1	2				Moradabad	1		
Maharashtra	Mumbai	26	5	2			Noida*	2		
	Nagpur	11	3	1			Saharanpur	1		
	Pune	9	3	1			Sahibabad*	1		
Manipur	Imphal	1					Varanasi	2		
Meghalaya	Shillong	2	1			West Bengal	Jalpaiguri	1		
Mizoram	Aizawl	1	1				Kolkata	18	4	1
Nagaland	Kohima	1					Siliguri	1		
Odisha	Berhampur	1				Chandigarh (ut)	Chandigarh	1		
	Bhubaneswar	3	1			Total		331	93	19 4
	Cuttack	1				[N.B. (*) asterisk mark shows Wellness Centre(s) under the administrative control of CGHS, Delhi]				
Punjab	Amritsar	1				<b>Annexure-II</b>				
	Jalandhar	1				<b>Total number of CGHS Beneficiaries, who availed treatment under CGHS in Rajasthan during last five years</b>				
Puducherry	Puducherry	1				<b>Year</b>	<b>Jaipur</b>	<b>Jodhpur*</b>	<b>Kota*</b>	<b>Ajmer*</b>
Rajasthan	Ajmer	1				2016	406978	—	—	—
	Jodhpur	1				2017	396755	—	—	—
	Jaipur	7	2	1		2018	486288	—	—	—
	Kota	1				2019	476418	4657	2957	8735
Sikkim	Gangtok	1				2020	379282	19443	8939	24239
						Total	2145721	24100	11896	32974
						[*CGHS has taken over postal dispensaries at Jodhpur, Kota and Ajmer from 1.4.2019 and CGHS Wellness Centres are functional in these cities since then.]				

**Government of India Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions (Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare)**

RAJYA SABHA

Unstarred Question No. 2673 (To be Answered on 18.03.2021)

Litigation for old pension scheme 2673 Shri Neeraj Shekhar: Smt. Chhaya Verma: Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad: Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 428 given in the Rajya Sabha on 4th February, 2021 and state: (a) whether High Court of Delhi on 15/01/2021 in W.P. (C) 8208/2020 and various other cases has ordered to revert officials under National Pension System (NPS) to Old Pension Scheme whose results for selection were declared after 31/12/2003 while advertisements for recruitment were issued before NPS coming into force;

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken/proposed in this regard; and

(c) the rationale for not issuing general orders for all on above lines inspite of recent judgements of Apex/High Courts in similar cases and compelling own officials for undue litigation instead of attending office thereby causing wastage of public money?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office

(Dr. Jitendra Singh)

(a) to (c): The new contributory pension scheme (now known as National Pension System) was introduced vide a notification dated 22.12.2003 issued by the Department of Economic Affairs.

Additional Modes of e-NPS exit : e-NPS withdrawal process and Online Superannuation & Premature Exit Withdrawal Process Flow

As per this notification, the new system was mandatory for all new recruits to the Central Government from 1.1.2004.

The petitioners in the Writ Petition No. 8208 / 2020 and several other writ petitions filed in the High Court of Delhi were appointed to different posts in Central Armed Police Forces after their selection in June/July, 2004 pursuant to the advertisements

issued in June, 2003 and September, 2003 and examinations conducted in January, 2004. The petitioners prayed for extension of the benefit of old pension scheme on the ground that the advertisements for the posts were issued before 1.1.2004. In its common order dated 15.01.2021, Hon'ble High Court has allowed these Writ Petitions and has directed to extend the benefit of Old Pension Scheme to each of the Petitioners.

In view of the decisions of the Courts in some other cases and in order to redress the grievances of the employees who, on their selection before 1.1.2004, could join Government service only after 1.1.2004, instructions were issued by Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare on 17.2.2020 that in all cases where results for recruitment were declared before 01.01.2004 against vacancies occurring on or before 31.12.2003, the candidates declared successful for recruitment would be eligible for coverage under the CCS(Pension) Rules, 1972.

The date of advertisement for the vacancies is, however, not considered relevant for determining the eligibility for coverage under the Old Pension Scheme, in terms of the Notification dated 22.12.2003 and O.M. dated 17.02.2020. It has, therefore, been decided to file a Special Leave Petition in the Hon'ble Supreme Court against the order dated 15.01.2021 of the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi in Writ Petition No. 8208/2020 and the other connected writ petitions.

**Government of India Ministry of Labour and Employment**

**Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No:4149**

Answered on: 22.03.2021

EPS-95 Pensioners Chandra Prakash Joshi Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:-

(a) the basis on which the pension is being given to EPS-95 pensioners at present;

(b) whether the Government intends to increase this pension; and

(c) if so, the details of the measures taken by the Government for the EPS-95 pensioners?

Answer

Minister of State (IC) for Labour and Employment (Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar)

(a): Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS), 1995 is a

'Defined Contribution-Defined Benefit' Social Security Scheme. As per the provisions of this Scheme, the pensioners are given pension from the pooled account in which 8.33 per cent of the employee's pay (statutory limit is Rs.15000/- per month) is contributed by the Employer and 1.16 per cent of the employee's pay (upto Rs.15000/-) is contributed by the Central Government. Amount of member's pension is determined on the basis of period of service and the salary on which contribution has been made by a member in the pension fund. The formula for calculating member pension under EPS, 95 is as follows:

Pensionable Service X Pensionable Salary 70

(b) & (c): The Government has, for the first time, started providing a minimum pension of Rs. 1000 per month to the pensioners under EPS, 1995 from 01.09.2014 by providing additional budgetary support keeping the widespread demands although there is no provision in the Scheme for budgetary support.

It is not possible to increase minimum monthly pension amount without compromising the financial viability of the Scheme and/or additional budgetary support. The Government constituted a High Empowered Monitoring Committee for complete evaluation and review of the EPS, 1995. The Committee has recommended, inter-alia, enhancement of monthly pension with fulfilling of certain conditions.

#### **Faulty implementation of the 6th Pay Commission reg revision of pay scale of teachers of Central Universities**

Government of India Ministry of Education  
Department of Higher Education

Rajya Sabha

Unstarred Question No.2619 to be Answered on 18.03.2021

Faulty implementation of the 6th Pay Commission 2619 Dr. Amar Patnaik:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state: the steps taken by the Ministry to step-up the salaries of senior university and college teachers viz-a-viz their junior teacher counterparts as the senior teachers of Central Universities are forced to take less salary due to faulty implementation of the 6th Pay Commission since last 10- 12 years and

this has resulted in wrong fixation of their salaries during the 7th Pay Commission?

Answer

Minister of Education (Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank')

The Ministry had issued letters No.1-32/2006-U.II/ U.I(i) dated 31.12.2008 and No.1-7/2015- U.11(1) dated 02.11.2017 to the University Grants Commission (UGC) regarding revision of pay scales of teachers as per 5th Central Pay Commission (CPC) and 7th CPC respectively, wherein there is a provision in the said letters for redressal of the anomaly.

#### **Wage Revision for BSNL Employees – Govt Clarifies the reason for not giving effect to pay revision**

Government of India Ministry of Communications  
Department of Telecommunications

Rajya Sabha

Unstarred Question No. 2570 to be Answered on 18th March, 2021

Wage Revision for BSNL Employees 2570 Shri M. Shanmugam:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) when was wage revision last made in BSNL for its employees and since when it is due;
- (b) the reason for not giving effect to wage revision despite many employees having taken VRS;
- (c) by when the wage revision will be given effect to;
- (d) whether the pension of retired employees would also be revised in view of persistent demand from them; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

Minister of State for Communications, Education and Electronics & Information Technology (Shri Sanjay Dhotre)

(a) to (c) Wage revision for executive & non-executive employees of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) was made with effect from 01.01.2007. Next wage revision is due with effect from 01.01.2017. However, BSNL has been incurring losses since 2009-10. BSNL does not fulfil the criteria under affordability clauses as per Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) guidelines

dated 03.08.2017 on pay revision in Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) w.e.f. 01.01.2017. Therefore, the pay revision in BSNL has not been considered due to its poor financial condition and continuous losses. BSNL continues to incur loss despite many employees opting for Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS).

(d) & (e) Pension revision in case of BSNL IDA pensioners is intrinsically linked with pay revision of serving employees to avoid anomaly of pension amount between present and future retirees of the same status and grade. Accordingly, case of pension revision of employees permanently absorbed in BSNL will have to await implementation of 3rd Pay Revision Commission (PRC) in BSNL.

**LTC Special Cash Package – FAQ No. 4 dt 10.03.2021: Finmin Clarification regarding queries being received in respect of Special Cash Package equivalent in lieu of Leave Travel Concession Fare for Central Government Employees during the block 2018-21**

No.12(2)/2020/E-II.A Government of India Ministry of Finance Department of Expenditure North Block, New Delhi Dated 10th March, 2021

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

**Sub: Clarification regarding queries being received in respect of Special Cash Package equivalent in lieu of Leave Travel Concession Fare for Central Government Employees during the block 2018-21.**

The undersigned is directed to say that this Deptt has been receiving a number of queries relating to Special Cash Package equivalent in lieu of Leave Travel Concession Fare for Centl Govt Employees during the block 2018-21 announced by the Govt on 12th October, 2020. Three sets of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) have already been clarified vide this Deptt's O.M. of even number dated 20th October 2020, 10th November 2020 and 25th Nov 2020 on the subject mentioned above.

2. A further set of frequently asked questions have been clarified and are attached herewith at Annexure- 'A'.

3. This issues with the approval of Competent Authority.

(Sunil Kumar) Under Secretary to the Govt. of India

Submission of final adjustment claims on account of Special Cash Package in lieu of LTC for the block year 2018-2021 (All India/Home Town)

Special Cash Package ; LTC Scheme FAQ No. 3, Leave Encashment is optional, New Insurance Policy; Self attested photocopy of bill allowed All Ministries/Deptts of the Government of India.

**S. Query**

**Reply**

**No**

1. Whether the full and final settlement of the bills pertaining to LTC Cash Scheme is also to be ensured by 31st March, 2021, without any scope of spill over to the next financial year?  
As far as possible, the claims should be made and settled well before 31st March, 2021, Ministries/Deptts may consider settlement of only those claims/ purchases made on or before 31st March, 2021 beyond the due date, i.e. 31st March, 2021.
2. Whether payment detail of digital instrument used for making payment against this scheme is to be furnished by the employee, along with the claim?  
It is clarified that it is for the competent authority of concerned Deptt/PAO to decide on additional document for checking the veracity of claim.
3. Is the scheme admissible if payment is made digitally through friend, relative or any other person?  
It has already been clarified in point 12 of the FAQ issued vide O.M.No.12(2)/2020-E.II.A dt 20.10.20 that for digital payment an employee can use credit card of himself/ herself, spouse or any family member.
4. For newly recruited officials having three Hometown LTC and one all India LTC, can they avail Special Cash Package for year 2020 in 2021 (upto 31.03.2021) if  
A newly recruited employee, whose LTC expires in December, 2020 which remains unutilized, may be allowed to claim the cash package in lieu of that LTC till

<p>item is purchased after 31.12.2020 but before 31.03.2021, that is without prior intimation to office?</p> <p>5. Portion of the payment was made in cash as against digital payment for the entire transaction. Whether this will be eligible under the Scheme?</p>	<p>31st March, 2021.</p> <p>The portion of digital payment may be allowed to be reimbursed subject to other conditions as contained in the O.M. dated 12.10.2020.</p>	<p>have retained BSNL accommodation on the basis of any of the existing provisions for retention of BSNL accommodation on payment basis in case of retd BSNL employees, are also covered under the instructions issued vide BSNL CO letter dated 20/01/2021 ?</p> <p>b) Whether those BSNL VRS-20 19 retirees, who have already vacated BSNL accommodation but not submitted "No Dues Certificate (NDC)", are also covered under the instructions issued vide BSNL CO letter dated 20/01/2021?</p>	<p>been allowed to retain BSNL accommodation on the basis of any of the existing provisions for retention of BSNL accommodation on payment basis, such as CROP 2020 Policy, are out of the purview of these instructions.</p> <p>'Those BSNL VRS-2019 retirees, who have vacated the BSNL accommodation within the permitted time period i.e 30/09/2020 but not submitted NO Dues Certificate (NDC) to the Concerned PAO, are out of the purview, of these instructions.</p>
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**Recovery of dues other than Government dues from the retirement benefits of BSNL VRS-2019 Scheme retired employees – Clarification**

Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (A Govt of India Enterprise) Corporate Office Pension Section, 5th floor Bharat Sanchar Bhawan H.C. Mathur Lane, New Delhi-01 No.48-2/2020-Pen(B)dt:19-03-2021  
To

All Heads of Circles/ Telecom Districts/ Regions / Projects/ Telecom Stores/ Telecom Factories & Other Administrative Offices Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited

**Sub : Recovery of dues other than Government dues from the retirement benefits of BSNL VRS-20 19 Scheme retired employees – Clarification regarding.**

Sir, I am directed to refer to this Office letter of even no. dated 20/ 0 1/2021, wherein guidelines to recover due amount from the retirement benefits of BSNL VRS-2019 Scheme retired employees has been issued. After issuance of the aforesaid letter, this office is receiving clarifications from various Telecom Circles/Units with regard to applicability of the aforesaid guidelines in case of certain categories of BSNL VRS-2019 retirees.

2 . The matter has been examined in BSNL Corporate Office and it has been decided to issue the following clarifications with regard to applicability of the guidelines issued vide this Office letter of even no. dt 20/01/2021, as under :-

<b>SI. Clarification No. Sought</b>	<b>Clarification Issued</b>
a) Whether those BSNL VRS-2019 retirees, who	Those BSNL VRS-2019 retirees, who have

been allowed to retain BSNL accommodation on the basis of any of the existing provisions for retention of BSNL accommodation on payment basis, such as CROP 2020 Policy, are out of the purview of these instructions.

'Those BSNL VRS-2019 retirees, who have vacated the BSNL accommodation within the permitted time period i.e 30/09/2020 but not submitted NO Dues Certificate (NDC) to the Concerned PAO, are out of the purview, of these instructions.

All the Heads of Circles/ Administrative Units of BSNL are, therefore, requested to take necessary action, in accordance with the aforesaid clarifications.

Yours faithfully, (Sudhanshu Shekhar Ray) Asstt. General Manager (Estt) Tele. N o . 011-23766036

**F.No TA-2-03002(01)/1/2021-TA-II/247 Govt of India Ministry of Finance Department of Expenditure Office of Controller General of Accounts Mahalekha Niyantrak Bhawan, GPO Complex, E-Block, INA, New Delhi-110023 Dated, the 17th March, 2021**

**Sub: Amendment in Treasury Rules of Central Government-Volume-I**

In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (1) of Article 283 of the Constitution, the president hereby makes the following amendment to the Treasury Rules of the Central Govt Volume - 1 :-  
Correction Slip No. 78

The following Note below Rule 328(1) shall be inserted:

Note: PAOs who are competent to issue PPOs to various categories of pensioners of Ministries/ Departments except M/o Railways, Defence and

D/o Posts shall issue PPO in electronic form using their digital signature through the designated electronic payment platform used by PAO of the Ministries/Departments. Such PPOs is termed as e-PPO in this rule. The procedure for processing of such e-PPOs and other related instructions shall be issued by office of CGA and CPAO from time to time.

(Authority: – O/o Controller General of Accounts (TA-III Section) UO No.TA-3-6/4/2020-TA-III/CS-4750 /33 dated 28th January 2021.)

Sd/- (Ashish Kumar Singh)

Dy. Controller General of Accounts

**Govt Min of Fin, Deptt of Expenditure O/o Controller General of Accounts Mahalekha Niyantarak Bhawan, New Delhi-110023 F. No. R-13002/1/2021-GBA-CGA/ 224-236 dt: 16-03-2021**

Office Memorandum

**Sub: Merger of Banks and its implications for the concerned Ministries/ Departments.**

Government of India, M/o Finance vide its Gazette notifications nos. GSR 153(E) to 156(E) dated 4/3/2020 announced merger/amalgamation of the following Public Sector Banks:

United Bank of India and Oriental Bank of Commerce have been merged with Punjab National Bank. {GSR no. 153(E)} Corporation Bank and Andhra Bank have been merged with Union Bank of India. {GSR no. 154 (E)} Syndicate Bank has been merged with Canara Bank. {GSR no. 155(E)} Allahabad Bank has been merged with Indian Bank. {GSR no. 156(E)}

As informed by the banks, technical merger has been completed by all the Banks involved. Due to this a need has been felt to re-notify the accreditation of the bank doing government agency business of the following Ministries/ Departments facilitating smooth and timely settlement of funds with Central Accounts Section, Reserve Bank of India, Nagpur.

Ministry of Shipping and Road Transport – Syndicate Bank now merged with Canara Bank President's Secretariat — United Bank of India now merged with Punjab National Bank Ministry of Coal — United Bank of India now merged with Punjab National Bank Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue — Allahabad Bank now merged with

Indian Bank M/o Law, Justice and Corporate Affairs, Department of Legal Affairs – Dena Bank now merged into Bank of Baroda Lakshadweep Islands — Syndicate Bank now merged with Canara Bank Apart from this, there may be cases where the focal point branch/e-focal point branches would change from the old bank to the new bank. It is also anticipated that after full technical merger of the banks, the government bank accounts for physical receipts and payments, accounts for e-receipts and payments, accounts for Non Tax Receipt Portals may undergo a change for PAO's and DDOs under them. Also their IFSC/BSR/MICR codes may have changed.

All the Ministry/Departments and the Banks involved (as mentioned above) are requested to do the needful as mentioned hereunder:

The proposal for re-notification of the accredited bank upon amalgamation/merger of existing accredited bank on technical grounds may be sent to this office immediately.

Details of the new focal point branch/e-focal point branch which would do settlement with CAS, RBI, Nagpur.

Old and new account numbers (for both physical as well as electronic transactions) for all the PAO's as well as DDO's along with old/new IFSC codes, MICR codes and BSR codes.

The government cheques have to be reprinted from Government Security Press, Nasik due to the fact that these changes the payments/settlements which would be effective from 1st April 2021 and old cheques cannot be issued w.e.f. 1/4/2021.

The new bank has to share the IFSC/BSR/MICR codes of all the branches of the old banks to the Ministry/Department, PFMS and Central Pension Accounting Office as well as to this office in a MS Excel File.

The merger of Banks may also involve consolidation of pensioner's papers/data lying in CPPC's. There may also be change of focal point branch relating to CPPC etc. This matter may also be discussed by Banks with CC (Pensions).

An SOP on merger of banks was circulated by Banking vertical in PFMS to the Banks through this office in January 2020, September 2020 and November 2020. It has been learnt that the banks

are working on the modalities laid down in SOP issued by PFMS. All the banks involved in merger may remain in constant touch with PFMS for smooth transition to next Financial Year after the merger.

All the DDO's may be directed to obtain the bank details from all the officials who have their account in the merged bank due to probable change in IFSC code and/or bank account number to avoid any problem in crediting of their March, 2021 salary in April 2021.

Sd/- (Sandeep R. Pai)

Sr. Accounts Officer Govt Banking Arrangement

**Government of India Ministry of Railways (Railway Board) Office Order No. 16 of 2021**

**Sub: HRMS- Procedure & Methodology**

Various Modules of Human Resource Management System (HRMS) have been launched all across the Indian Railways. However, it has been observed that officers/staff working in Board 's Office are not aware of various aspects of HRMS like Login Method, procedure to apply for Pass/PF, checking the data entered in HRMS, raising request for change/correction in HRMS data etc.

2. In majority of cases officers/staff have not yet checked the data entered in HRMS with the PAO (for gazetted Officers), ERB-II (for non-gazetted staff) and ERB-V (for MTS etc) particularly service/pass related data, as a result problems are faced by them while applying for Pass/PF.

3. In the first instance, all Officers/staff are requested to login in HRMS portal and check their service related data. Any error in Service Record, Dependents, Family details, Salary etc may be brought to the knowledge of their respective ERB sections (by non-gazetted staff) and to PAO unit (by Gazetted Officers). All correction related to service record dependent, family members, salary data would be carried out by these unit. Alternatively, the concerned Officer/staff may raise edit/change/update request through HRMS portal for which detailed procedure has been attached at Annexure-I. (<https://scm-bps.blogspot.com/2021/03/hrms-procedure-methodology-process-flow.html>)

4. Accordingly, a detailed flow chart (Annexure-I & II) covering various aspects of HRMS has been

attached for ease of working through HRMS. It is requested that all officers/staff may start using HRMS, get themselves registered, change login password, apply for Passes/PF through HRMS and gradually get themselves acquainted with different modules/features. HRMS can be accessed from Mobile/PC browser (<https://hrms.indianrail.gov.in/HRMS/login>) or through HRMS Android app (which may be down loaded through google play store, App for iOS is not yet ready and would be intimated in due course).

5. Cooperation of all concerned is solicited towards use of HRMS. For any technical query HRMS help desk at first floor Room No 110-A may be consulted. No.2021/0&M/2/6 Dated: 18/03/2021

(B Majumdar) Joint Secy/Rly Bd R.No.533-C

**LTC cash voucher scheme - Date to claim All you need to know | - March 23, 2021**

LTC cash voucher scheme – Date to claim – Under the scheme, the central government employees can claim cash equivalent of the LTC amount, comprising leave encashment and fare, through reimbursement if they opt for it.

The Centre in October last year announced the leave travel concession (LTC) cash voucher scheme to boost consumption which was affected due to the Covid-19 induced lockdown. The scheme allows government employees to claim tax benefits through the purchase of goods and services in lieu of LTC for travel.

Under the scheme, the central government employees can claim cash equivalent of the LTC amount, comprising leave encashment and fare, through reimbursement if they opt for it. The month end or March 31 is the last date to avail the benefits of the scheme.

Here's all you need to know about how to avail the LTC cash voucher scheme:

> The cash equivalent benefit can be claimed if the employee spends a sum three times the value of deemed LTC fare.

> Cash equivalent of full leave encashment benefit can be claimed if the employee spends an equal sum. This will be counted towards the number of leave encashment on LTC available to employees.

> Invoices of goods and services availed with GST rate not less than 12 per cent can also be claimed

under the scheme. The payment of the goods or services from the registered GST vendor is required to be done through digital mode.

> To avail for the package, an employee should opt for both leave encashment and LTC fare.

> TDS will also not be deducted on the reimbursement of the deemed LTC fare. The TDS which is deducted in case of leave encashments will be exempted in this scheme since the cash reimbursement of the deemed fare is in place of the actual travel.

> Employees who have opted for the new tax regime cannot avail the scheme, where the rate of taxes are lower but most deductions and exemptions are not applicable.

> The deemed LTC fare per person, amounting for a round trip, against which the claims be made are Rs 36,000 for employees who are entitled to business class airfare, Rs 20,000 for employees entitled to economy class airfare and Rs 6,000 to employees entitled to rail fare of any class.

> Initially, the scheme was launched for government employees but was later extended to the private sector as well, reported Mint.

> According to the department of expenditure, the amount of up to 100 per cent leave encashment and 50 per cent value of the deemed fare is to be paid as an advance to the employee opting for the scheme and claims under the scheme is to be settled in the current financial year till March 31.

**Mis-12/CGHS/Gr.Cell/2021/DIR/CGHS Government of India Ministry of Health & Family Welfare Directorate General of CGHS Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi dated 26.03.2021**

Office Memorandum

**Sub: Guidelines regarding administration of Covid vaccine to the CGHS beneficiaries**

The Department has been receiving various representations and grievances regarding administration of Covid vaccine to the CGHS beneficiaries. The matter has been examined and it has now been decided that:

1. As per the Government of India policy, the vaccination against Covid illness is being provided free of cost to the beneficiaries at the designated government facilities. The beneficiaries are required to pay Rs. 250/- per dose in the private hospitals

only. As per the policy no reimbursement has been provisioned if a beneficiary decides to get vaccinated at private empanelled hospitals. Therefore the referral for the same by the CGHS Wellness Centers to the private hospitals is not required.

2. The planning and operational aspects for Covid-19 vaccination are in the domain of the State Governments. The District Health authorities of the State Governments are making arrangements for listing of the health facilities, for providing training, logistics, vaccinators and the vaccine to the identified facilities where Covid-19 vaccination centers are being planned and started. The CGHS does not have any role in this. A request has been made to all states to consider utilising CGHS Wellness Centres as CVC (Covid Vaccination Centre), if feasible.

3. All the beneficiaries are required to register themselves on the CoWin app and to indicate the name of the CVC where they would like to avail the vaccination and also the convenience of time at which to avail the same.

Here's a step-by-step guide for registration and booking a vaccination appointment on CoWin:

People can register and book an appointment for vaccination either directly through the CoWin portal or through the Arogya Setu app which is integrated with CoWin portal.

On CoWin portal, enter your mobile number and click on the OTP (One Time Password). Enter the OTP received on your mobile and click on the verify button.

If registering through Aarogya Setu app, go to the CoWin tab, tap on the Vaccination tab and the click on Proceed.

A registration page will appear where you will need to fill in the beneficiary's details, such as name, year of birth and gender. You will also need to enter the photo id type.

If the registration is meant for a senior citizen, click on Register. If it's for a person with co-morbidities, click on YES where the form asks. "Do you have any comorbidities (pre-existing medical conditions)". The beneficiaries in this category need to carry a medical certificate when they go for their vaccine appointment.

Once registered, a confirmation message will be sent to your registered mobile number.

After registration, the system will show the "Account Details". On this page, you can add three more beneficiaries by clicking on Add More button. One person can add up to four people linked with one mobile number.

You can schedule an appointment by clicking on a calendar icon, below a column named Action.

You will then be taken to "Book Appointment for Vaccination" page where you will need to fill in the beneficiaries' address details - State/UT, District, Block and Pincode. Click on the Search button once done.

A list of vaccination centres will appear based on the search criteria.

Upon choosing a centre, the available slots (date and capacity) will be displayed.

After selection of the dates, click on "Book".

A confirmation page with "Appointment Successful" message will be displayed.

If you want to reschedule, you can again log in with your mobile number, enter OTP and make the changes by clicking on the edit icon below the 'Action' column against registered individuals. In case you have to move to another city, you can make changes to find the nearest vaccination centre as well.

This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

(Dr Sanjay Jain) Director CGHS

**Guidelines for issue of Oxygen Concentrator for Post COVID patients – CGHS OM 01 March 2021 F.No. S.11011/4/2021-EHS GoI Ministry of Health & Family Welfare Deptt of Health & Family Welfare New Delhi Dated: 01st March, 2021**

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

**Sub: Guidelines for issue of Oxygen Concentrator for Post COVID patients.**

The undersigned is directed to refer to the OM No. S.1 1011/4/2014-CGHS (P) dated 05.03.2014 in which the procedure for grant of permission /post facto approval and reimbursement of the cost of CPAP/ BIPAP/Oxygen concentrator etc. were prescribed and OM No.1-19/2018/CGHS (HQ)/R&H/EHS dated 03.06.2019, wherein the rates for the above mentioned Respiratory appliances were revised.

- To, 1.All Ministries/Departments, Govt of India,  
2.Director, CGHS, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi.  
3.Addl. DDG(HQ), CGHS, MoHFW, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi.  
4.AD(HQ), CGHS, R.K. Puram, Sec-12, New Delhi.  
5.All Addl. Directors/Joint Directors of CGHS cities outside Delhi.  
6.Additional Director(SZ)(CZ)KEZ/NZ)(MSD), MCTC CGHS, New Delhi.  
7.JD(HQ), JD(Grievance)/AD(R&H), CGHS, Delhi.  
8.DDG(M), CMO(SRA), Dte. GHS, MoHFW, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi.  
9,Rajya Sabha/Lok Sabha Secretariat, New Delhi.  
10.Registrar, Supreme Court of India, New Delhi.  
11.U.P.S.C., Dholpur House, New Delhi

**Revised Rate of Honorarium payable to Serving, Retired and Eminent Guest Faculty at RAKNPA F. no. 01-73/2009-Trg. Government of India Ministry of Communications Department of Posts (Training Division) Dak Bhawan, Sansad Marg, New Delhi – 110 001 Dated: 17.03.2021**

To, Director, RAK.NPA.

**Sub: Increase in rates of the honorarium payable to Serving, Retired and Eminent Guest Faculty at RAKNPA.**

Reference Training Division's letter no. 11-47/2016-Trg. dated 25-02-2016 and letter no. 01-73/2009-Trg. dated 01-01-2010 and 01-11-2011.

With reference to the subject matter, it is informed that the competent authority has approved the proposal for enhancement of rates of the honorarium payable to Serving, Retired and Eminent Guest Faculty at RAKNPA, with immediate effect and as per details given below:-

Sl. No.	Category	New rate of Honorarium
1)	Serving (Departmental officers)	Rs. 1000/- per session
2)	Non-serving	Rs. 2000/- per session
3)	Experts/Eminent persons	Rs. 8000/- per session

(One session is of 75 minutes duration)

2. This issues with the concurrence of the IFW of Postal Directorate vide their diary number 119 dated 17-03-2021.

(Moona Yasmin) ADO (Training)

**Functioning of Departmental Councils and Office Councils – Guidelines of JCM Scheme: DoPT OM** states that the Departmental Council Meetings may be held once in every four months, as follows, as per the laid down guidelines of the JCM Scheme. F.No.3/1/2019-JCA Government of India Ministry of Personnel, PG and Pensions Establishment (JCA Section) North Block, New Delhi dt 22.02.2021

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

**Sub:- Functioning of Departmental Councils and Office Councils – Guidelines of JCM Scheme – regarding.**

The undersigned is directed to say that instructions have been issued by this Department, from time to time, for making effective use of JCM Scheme by Ministries/Departments to discuss the demands of the employees. The Departmental Council set up under the JCM Scheme is the appropriate forum for redressal of the grievances of the employees. However, it has come to notice that the meeting of the Departmental Councils / Staff Councils in various Ministries/Departments, except a few, are not being held regularly.

2. The Staff Side, National Council (JCM) has been raising this issue in the meetings of the National Council and Standing Committee of the National Council (JCM). As per the JCM Scheme “the meetings of the Departmental Council shall be held as often as necessary, and not less than once in four months”.

3. However, it has been observed that in some of the Mins/Depts, the meetings of the Departmental Councils/Office Councils have not been held for a long time and in many Mins/ Depts, Departmental Council/Office Council has not been formulated, for redressal of employees grievances.

4. In view of the above, it is requested that the Departmental Council Meetings may be held once in every four months, as follows, as per the laid down guidelines of the JCM Scheme, under intimation to this Department:

**S.No. During the Period Updates, Remarks**

S.No.	During the Period	Updates,	Remarks
	Date of the Meeting	if any	
1.	Jan. - April		
2.	May - August		
3.	Sept. - Dec.		

4. Further, it is requested that the Departmental Council may be constituted, in those Ministries/Departments, where it has not been constituted, so far and the meetings of the Departmental Council may be held frequently, as indicated in para 3, above to resolve Staff Side grievances.

(S.T. Selvi Singh)

Under Secretary to the GoI

**Grant of Grade Pay of Rs-5400 in PB-2 after completion of 4 years regular service in grade pay Rs 4800 to all eligible Admin Officer Gde-I/ Sr Private Secretary/Asstt Architect Gde-I**

Office of The Principal Controller of Accounts 10-A, S. K. BOSE ROAD, KOLKATA – 700 001  
Pay-Tech Section No. Pay/Tech-I/01(6th CPC) dated 25/03/2021

To

All CFAs

**Sub: Grant of Grade Pay of Rs-5400 in pay band-2 after completion of 4 years regular service in grade pay Rs-4800**

A copy of Engineer-in-Chief’s Branch, Dte Gen of Persl/CSCC HQ Military Engineer Services New Delhi, Letter No.CC-B/77030/VI CPC/Gp B Offrs/CSCC, dated-07/01/2021, on the above subject received under CGDA, Delhi Cantt. No. CGDA/Navy/CG/07/Gen Corr/2019/Vol-II, dated 19/03/2021 is forwarded herewith for information, guidance and compliance to all concerned, please.

DC of A(Fys) has seen.

Enclosure: As above

SAO(Fys)

Engineer-in-Chief’s Branch Dte Gen of Persl/CSCC HQ Military Engineer Services Kashmir House, Rajaji Marg New Delhi-110 011

CC-B/77030/VI CPC/Gp B Offrs/CSCC 07 Jan 2021

ADG (NEI) Guwahati, Pin- 781027

ADG (Coast Guard & Projects) Chennai, Pin- 600009

ADG (North) Jammu, C/o CWE (AFP) Jammu, Pin- 937256

ADG (D&C) Pune, Range Hills Road, Pune, Pin- 411003

CME Pune, Pin- 908797

Headquarters ,

CE, Southern Western Command, Jaipur, Pin- 908546

CE, Southern Command, Pune, Pin- 908541

CE, Eastern Command, Fort William, Kolkata, Pin- 908542

CE, Western Command, Chandimandir, Pin- 908543

CE, Central Command, Lucknow Cantt, Pin- 908544

CE, Northern Command, Udhampur, Pin-908545 |

Grant of Grade Pay of Rs. 5400/- in Pay Band-2 After Completion of 4 Years Regular Service in Grade Pay Rs. 4800/-

1. It is intimated that instruction for grant of Grade Pay of Rs. 5400/- in Pay Band-2 on completion of 04 years service to all eligible Admin Officer Gde-I/ Senior Private Secretary/Asstt Architect Gde-I in accordance with Srl No. 02 of Part B, Section-II of Min of Def Notification No. 11(1)/2008/D(Civ-1) dated 09 Sep 2008, has been accorded vide this office letter No. CC-1B/77030/VI CPC/Gp 'B' Offrs/ CSCC/23 dated 20 Oct 2015.

2. It has come to the notice that in some formations, audit authorities are not approving such cases due to want of a separate 'Sanction Order' by competent authority.

3. Keeping in view of this, the case regarding taking the approval/decision/ clarification from MoD/ MoD(Finance) for issue of 'Sanction Order' by competent authority of this office, has already been taken up by this office with MoD. The matter is under consideration with them and approval/ decision/clarification is still awaited. As and when the specific outcome is received from MoD/ MoD(Finance), the same will be communicated accordingly, till such time the instructions issued vide this HQ letter No. CC-1B/77030/VI CPC/Gp 'B' Offrs/CSCC/23 dated 20 Oct 2015 are not to be implemented.

This has the approval of E-in-C.

(S P Singh, IDSE)

Dir (Pers)/CSCC For E-in-C

**MACP Scheme to Central Government Civil Employees Clarification on approval of recommendations of Screening Committee**

No. 4-7/MACPS/2019-PCC Government of India Ministry of Communications Department of Posts Dak Bhawan, Sansad Marg, New Delhi – 110001 Date : 25.03.2021

To

All Chief Postmasters General / Postmasters General

Chief General Manager, BD Directorate / Parcel Directorate / PLI Directorate / CEPT.

Director, RAKNPA / Directors of All PTCs

Addl. Director General, Army Postal Service, R.K.Puram , New Delhi

All General Managers (Finance) / Directors Postal Accounts / DDAP

**Sub:- Modified Assured Career Progression (MACP) Scheme to Central Govt Civil Employees, clarification on approval of recommendations of Screening Committee – reg.**

Sir / Madam,

This refers to various references seeking clarification on applicability of the provisions of para 5 of DoP&T OM No.35034/3/2015-Estt.(D) MACP 22.10.19 circulated vide this Directorate OM of even No. dtd 30.10.2019 which inter alia stipulate that "...in all other cases, the power to approve the recommendations of the Screening Committee shall be with the Appointing Authority." vis-a-vis the provisions contained in para 10 of this Directorate OM No. 4-7/(MACPS)/2009-PCC dated 18.09.2009, as reproduced "The recommendations of the Screening Committee shall be placed before the Director Postal Services / Director Accounts Postal / Head of the Region / Circle or Organization / Competent Authority as the case may be for approval.", while considering the recommendations of Screening Committee, headed by an officer of JTS/STS rank, made in respect of the official(s) whose appointing authority is of the rank below Junior Time Scale of Group 'A'.

2. The issue was examined and it has been observed that since the Modified Assured Career Progression Scheme continues to be effective from 01.09.2008 and the DoP&T OM dated 22.10.2019 ibid, comprising consolidated guidelines on MACP Scheme incorporating the provisions required as a result of the implementation of 7th CPC recommendations, is in continuation of earlier Office Memoranda on MACP Scheme, the provisions of para 10 of this Directorate OM No. 4-7/(MACPS)/2009-PCC dt 18.09.2009 will hold good.

3. This issues with the approval of competent authority.

Yours Faithfully,

(Dr. Vincent Barla) Director (GDS)

**Pay & Pension cannot be deferred - S C - 26.02.2021 CA 399/2021 Reportable**

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION Civil Appeal No 399 of 2021 (Arising out of SLP (C) No 12553 of 2020) The State of Andhra Pradesh and Another Appellant(s)

Versus

Smt Dinavahi Lakshmi Kameswari Respondent(s)  
ORDER

1 Leave granted.

2 This appeal arises from a judgment and order of the Andhra Pradesh High Court dated 11 August 2020. The State of Andhra Pradesh issued GOMs No.26 on 31 March 2020 and GOMs No. 37 on 26 April 2020. The backdrop for the orders was the outbreak of Covid-19 and the financial crises which had resulted as a consequence. The revenues of the State of Andhra Pradesh were impacted by the onset of the pandemic. The financial position of the State finds reference in the judgment of the High Court, which has been extracted below:

“The States’ own revenue consisting of tax revenue and nontax revenue have shown a precipitous decline of 52% i.e. Rs 7593 crores in first quarter of 2020-21 as compared to 2019-20. The receipts were only Rs 7089 crores against Rs 14,682 crores of 2019-20. The States’ own revenue have not shown any appreciable improvement in the month of July, 2020 also as the decline is to an extent of 49% amounting to Rs 2,129 crores for the first 20 days of the month of July, 2019.” The above extract in the judgment of the High Court is based on the submissions of the State.

3 By GOMs No. 26 of 31 March 2020, the State Government determined that it was necessary, as an urgent measure, to provide for a deferment of the salaries and pensions which it was obligated to pay. Consequently, paragraph 5 stipulated as follows:

“5. Government, after careful consideration of the situation arising due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the economic consequences of the lock down, the

cessation of the revenue inflows and extra burden imposed on the State’s resources to contain the epidemic & to provide relief to the people affected/ likely to be affected, hereby orders for the deferment of Salaries/ Wages/ Remuneration/ Honorarium/Pensions on gross basis, as per the following pattern:

(i) There shall be (100)% deferment in respect of Hon’ble C.M./Hon’ble Ministers/Hon’ble M.L.As/ Hon’ble M.L.Cs, Chairperson & Members of all Corporations, elected representatives of all Local Bodies & people holding equivalent posts, as per the orders issued from time to time.

(ii) There shall be (60)% deferment in respect of All India Service Officers viz., IAS, IPS and IFS;

(iii) There shall be (50)% deferment in respect of all other Government employees, including work charged employees & persons engaged under the category of direct individuals professions & through 3rd party, except Class-IV Employees;

(iv) There shall be (10)% deferment in respect of Class-IV, Out-sourcing, Contract and the Village & Ward Secretariat employees;

(v) The deferment mentioned in respect of Para 5(i), (ii),(iii) & (iv) supra shall be made applicable mutatis mutandis in respect of the retired employees in the respective categories.

(vi) The above deferment shall be equally applicable to the serving & retired employees of all PSUs/ Government aided Institutes/Organizations/ Universities/Societies/Autonomous bodies/ Semi autonomous bodies, etc. in respect of their Salaries/ Wages / Honorarium / Pensions.”

4. It is also provided that the above orders would come into force in respect of the salary, wages, remuneration and pensions for the month of March 2020, payable in April 2020 and would continue to remain in force until further orders.

5. On 4 April 2020, there was a modification by the State Government in terms of GOMs No.27 which provided for the payment of full salary to the employees of three departments, namely, (i) medical and health department;

(ii) police department; and (iii) sanitation workers working in rural local bodies or urban local bodies, such as Nagar Panchayats, Municipalities and Municipal Corporations.

6. On 26 April 2020, GOMs No.37 provided for a further modification under which the Government, having noticed the hardships which were being faced by the pensioners, directed the payment of full pension to all categories of pensioners.

7. A writ petition under Article 226 of the Constitution was filed before the High Court by a former District and Sessions Judge. The gravamen of the grievance was that salaries and pensions are due as a matter of right to employees and, as the case may be, to former employees who have served the State. Consequently, a direction was sought in the petition to the State Government to pay the outstanding salaries and pensions which had remained due.

8. The High Court by its judgment and order dated 11 August 2020 held that:

(i) The PIL at the behest of a public spirited citizen was maintainable, the petitioner before the High Court having instituted the proceedings pro bono without any personal interest;

(ii) Pension is payable to the retired employees for the past services rendered by them to the State;

(iii) Under Rule 9 of the Andhra Pradesh Revised Pension Rules 1980, pension can only be withheld or deferred under specific circumstances such as if the pensioner is found guilty of grave misconduct or negligence during employment in a departmental or judicial proceeding. These circumstances had not been established;

(iv) Article 72 of the Andhra Pradesh Financial Code deals with the payment of salary to employees of the State, and provides that salary is payable on the last day of every month;

(v) The entitlement to the payment of salary is intrinsic to the right to life under Article 21 and to the right to property which is recognized by Article 300A of the Constitution;

(vi) The State could not by means of a government

order have provided for the deferment of salaries and pensions without following recourse to law.(vii) Although the GOMs make reference to the state plan under Section 23 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005, none of the provisions of the said Act provide for deferred payment of salaries or pensions.

9. On the above premises, the High Court directed (i) payment of the deferred salary for the months of March-April 2020 together with interest at the rate of 12% per annum and (ii) payment of deferred pension for the month of March 2020 with a similar rate of interest.

10. Aggrieved by the judgment of the High Court, the Government of Andhra Pradesh moved these proceedings under Article 136 of the Constitution. The State Government clarified in its Special Leave Petition that it was restricting its challenge only to the component of interest which had been imposed by the judgment and order of the High Court. On 18 November 2020, while considering the Special Leave Petition at the preliminary hearing, the Court issued a direction to the effect that the deferred portion of the payments on account of salaries, pensions and honoraria due to the employees or, as the case may be, to former employees be paid in two equal tranches. The first was directed to be paid on or before 15 December 2020, while the second was directed to be paid on or before 15 January 2021. The direction in regard to the payment of interest was stayed by this Court.

11. In pursuance of the above directions, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has disbursed the full amount of salary and pensions which came to be deferred by the GOMs which have been noted earlier. The only issue which now survives for determination is the liability to pay interest.

12. Mr Shekhar Naphade, learned senior counsel appearing on behalf of the appellants with Mr Mahfooz Ahsan Nazki, learned counsel, submits that the decision to defer the payment of salaries and pensions was taken due to the precarious financial position in which the State found itself as

a consequence of the pandemic. Mr Naphade submitted that immediately after the issuance of first GOMs, a relaxation was provided for front-line workers such as those in the police, health and sanitation departments. Moreover, by a subsequent relaxation a direction was issued for payment of pensions to the pensioners. Hence, it has been submitted that the State had acted bona fide and there would be no reason to saddle it with the liability to pay interest. Alternately, it has been submitted that if interest is directed to be paid, the payment should be confined only in regard to the employees of the State falling in categories 3, 4 and 5 of the GOMs dated 31 March 2020.

13. Opposing the submissions of Mr Naphade and Mr Nazki, Mr Yelamanchili Shiva Santosh Kumar, learned counsel appearing on behalf of the respondents, urged that the intervention of the High Court must be understood in the perspective of the background facts, namely, that the State had intervened by issuing an administrative order in exercise of its powers under Article 162 of the Constitution without enacting a proper legislation for the deferment of salary or, as the case may be, pensions.

Learned counsel highlighted the serious hardships which would have been caused to pensioners as a result of the order of deferment and hence submitted that the High Court is fully justified in entertaining the PIL and in directing payment of interest at the rate of 12% per annum.

14. The direction for the payment of the deferred portions of the salaries and pensions is unexceptionable. Salaries are due to the employees of the State for services rendered. Salaries in other words constitute the rightful entitlement of the employees and are payable in accordance with law. Likewise, it is well settled that the payment of pension is for years of past service rendered by the pensioners to the State. Pensions are hence a matter of a rightful entitlement recognised by the applicable rules and regulations which govern the service of the employees of the State. The State

Government has complied with the directions of this Court for the payment of the outstanding dues in two tranches. Insofar as the interest is concerned, we are of the view that the rate of 12% per annum which has been fixed by the High Court should be suitably scaled down. While learned counsel for the respondents submits that the award of interest was on account of the action of the Government which was contrary to law, we are of the view that the payment of interest cannot be used as a means to penalize the State Government. There can be no gainsaying the fact that the Government which has delayed the payment of salaries and pensions should be directed to pay interest at an appropriate rate.

15 We accordingly order and direct that in substitution of the interest rate of 12% per annum which has been awarded by the High Court, the Government of Andhra Pradesh shall pay simple interest computed at the rate of 6% per annum on account of deferred salaries and pensions within a period of thirty days from today. This direction shall, however in the facts and circumstances, be confined to categories 3, 4, 5 and 6 of GOMs No 26 dated 31 March 2020. We clarify that interest shall be paid to all pensioners of the State at the rate of 6% per annum on the deferred portion, for the period of delay. Having regard to the prevailing bank interest, the rate of 12% per annum which has been fixed by the High Court, would need to be and is accordingly reduced.

16. The appeal is accordingly disposed of in terms of the above directions. There shall be no order as to costs.

17. Pending applications, if any, stand disposed of. ....J. [Dr Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud] .....J.

[M R Shah] New Delhi; February 8, 2021

**STAY SAFE**

**USE MASK AND FOLLOW SOCIAL DISTANCING**

**Affiliates please send :**

Your activity report in English (duly typed) latest by 20th of every month, quoting your affiliation no. Pincode and Contact No. to BPS office 2/13A LGF (Backside) Jangpura A Hospital Road New Delhi 110014 e-mail : bharatpensioner@gmail.com.

**Please send your reports in Hindi (duly typed) in word format to**

BPS office 2/13A LGF ( Backside) Jangpura A Hospital Road New Delhi 110014 e-mail : bharatpensioner@gmail.com.

Maharaja Nagar, TIRUNEVELLI

The 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual meeting of Trunevelli Dist Posts and Tels and Central Govt Pensioners Association Maharajanagar, Trunrvelli, was held under the Chairman ship of Shri A Ramasundaram. Shri S N Subhaiah read the welcome address and greeted all the Delegates. Shri A Amritharaj, presented the Annual Report of the Association and Shri A Mookiah, Treasurer Presented Audited Accounts. Both the reports, Annual report as well as accounts were accepted by voice of votes.

It was resolved by all the delegates to merge the Association with NFRPA. The General Body accepted without any objection.

S N Subbiah, Secretary

**AMRITSAR**

The Annual General Body Meeting of ALL INDIA CENTRAL GOVT PENSIONERS ASSOCIATION AMRITSAR, was held under the Presidentship of Shri Shangara Singh Dhillon on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2021. The following Office bearers were re-elected unanimously for the period from March 21 to Mar 22 for Amritsar Branch:

Patron/Chairman : Shri Partap Singh  
 President : Shri Shangara Singh Dhillon  
 V/ Presidents : Two  
 Secretary : Shri Amarjit Kalia  
 Asst Secretaries : Two  
 Cashier : Shri Waryam Singh  
 Asst Cashier-One, Org Secretaries- Five, Executive members- Six  
 The AGM ended on a happy note with a cup of tea. Amarjit Kalia. Secretary

**BHARAT PENSIONER**

सहारनपुर रेलवे पेंशनर्स समाज

27.3.2021 सहारनपुर रेलवे पेंशनर्स समाज सीनियर इंस्टीट्यूट में आयोजित मासिक मिलन बैठक में संस्थापक आर सी शर्मा ने जानकारी दी कि संस्था का 8वाँ वार्षिक सम्मेलन 24 अप्रैल 2021 को आयोजित किया जाएगा जिसमें वी ब्रॉस हॉस्पिटल द्वारा निःशुल्क चिकित्सा परीक्षण वार्षिक पत्रिका का विमोचन 80 वर्ष से अधिक उम्र वालों को सम्मानित तथा पेंशनर्स मामलों पर विचार मंथन किया जाएगा। सम्मेलन में रेलवे अधिकारी संस्था के केंद्रीय पदाधिकारी स्थानीय जन प्रतिनिधि एवम अन्य विभूतिया विशिष्ट अतिथि के रूप में सम्मिलित होंगे। बैठक में सम्मलेन की तैयारियों पर विस्तृत चर्चा की गई। एक दूसरे को रंग लगाकर होली की बधाई दी गयी।

विशिष्ट उपस्थिति एवं वक्ता –अध्यक्ष आर के धींगड़ा, महामंत्री मूल चंद रांगड़ा, जे एन शर्मा, हरीश कुमार, देवेन्द्र कुमार बी पी श्रीवास्तव, टीए शरफानी, अरविंद शर्मा, अजीत सिंह, हरीश चंद, बलजीत जायसवाल, वी के त्यागी, अमरनाथ त्यागी, श्रीकृष्ण आर्य, बलदेव राज, वेदप्रकाश, जगदीश प्रकाश, मनजीत सिंह, राजेश गोयल, इंदरजीत कुमार, विजेन्द्र शर्मा आदि।

**Appeal**

NOTHING CAN BE ACHIEVED  
WITHOUT STRUGGLE.

EVERY STRUGGLE NEEDS MONEY  
DONATE GENEROUSLY TO BPS IF  
YOU WISH IT TO CONTINUE TO  
STRUGGLE FOR YOUR WELFARE  
WITH THE SAME ZEAL & PASSION

**New Member - ANNUAL**

A4390	G Ramachandran	Tiruvannamallai	03/22
A4391	Jaswant Lal Mali	Udaipur	03/22
A4396	Vilas V Ekhe	Jalgaon	03/22
A4397	Ashok D Dhumale	Jalgaon	03/22
A4398	Naim Khan	Jalgaon	03/22
A4399	Ajay H Jaiswal	Jalgaon	03/22
A4400	JV Koli	Jalgaon	03/22
A4401	Vivek Hari Supe	Jalgaon	03/22
A4402	R D Malhotra	New Delhi	03/22

**New Member - TRIENNEAL**

A4392	MS Rajalaxmi B R	Hubli	03/24
A4393	Dinesh L Naik	Bangalore	03/24
A4394	T Komathi Ansuya	Bangalore	03/24
A4395	Daya S Dubey	Ghaziabad	03/24

**Affiliated Association - (RENEWAL)**

M6837	Exll ex-MES Off Fm	New Delhi	02/22
A0969	U P G Penrs Assn	Ghazaibad	03/22
A3737	Geol Sury of India	Hyderabad	06/22
A2620	Tea Bd Penr Assn	Kolkata	01/23
A0337	C G Penrs Assn	Nadia	03/22
A3704	Haryana G P Assn	Chandigarh	03/22
A0908	Rtd Rly E P Assn	Durg	03/22
M4140	A I A C G Penrs	Nilgiris	03/22
M5610	Rly Penrs Assn	Durg	03/22
A0298	Def & Rly P Assn	Wardha	03/22
M3648	Mizoram C P Assn	Aizwal	03/23
M0424	IIT & OCGP Assn	W Medinapur	03/23
M6208	Rly Penrs Assn	Gondia	03/22
A2633	Rtd R E W Assn	Visakhapatnam	03/22
M3663	Rly Penrs Assn	Sahibganj	03/22
A3189	EIRPWO/R"pur	Purulia	03/22
M8115	SEC Penrs Assn	Chandrapur	03/22

**RENEWAL - ANNUAL**

A1605	Devraj Rishiraj	New Delhi	03/22
A4042	Vijaypal Singh	Faridabad	03/22
A3233	V Pichumani	Chennai	04/22
A0081	S S Mehangra	Patiala	07/22
A3105	R N Mukherjee	New Delhi	03/22
A4218	N L Narasimham	Nellore	05/22
A3597	R S Yadav	Jaipur	03/22
A3480	Satish Ch Ray	Begusarai	03/22
M8940	Harikishan Bhagat	Delhi	04/22
M5917	Amiya Das Gupta	Bankura	03/22
A2753	M S Bansode	Mumbai	04/22
M5976	O D Uppal	Kanpur	03/22
A2756	Raghubir Singh	Patiala	04/22
M5995	Ram Prakash Gharu	Panchkula	06/22

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A1607	Y P Bajaj	New Delhi	03/22
A3859	Ram Krishan Saini	Gurdaspur	03/22
M8647	G T Kumshikar	Dharwad	03/22
M5229	K K Bhatnagar	Gurgaon	04/22
M8008	M S Gurjar	Ahmedabad	03/22
A1252	M L Soneja	New Delhi	05/22
A4318	Trilochan Singh	Yamunanagar	03/22
A3860	Ramesh C Sharma	Rup Nagar	03/22
A3437	J P Sharma	Bijnor	03/22
M8652	Barkat R Sachdeva	Sriganga Nagar	05/22
M6903	Shashikant B Batle	Raigarh	03/22
A4065	N Krishnamurthy	Krishna	03/22
M8550	Hari Singh	Meerut	03/22

**RENEWAL - BIENNIAL**

M8624	B V Gondane	Nagpur	03/23
A3827	Gurdial Chand	Jalandhar	03/23
L9094	Santosh Saini	New Delhi	03/23
M7650	H C Adhlakha	Faridabad	03/23
A3175	S V Basil	New Delhi	03/23
A3599	Magan Bhai	Rajkot	03/23
M4751	KV Raghvendra	Navi Mumbai	03/23

**RENEWAL - TRIENNEAL**

L9838	B V Venkatesh	Banglore	03/24
A3842	Suresh Singh	Wardha	03/24
L9670	N B Chokshi	Surat	03/24
L2773	ID Kewal Ramani	New Delhi	03/24
A2541	S V Swar	Mumbai	03/24
L9961	N Venkataraman	Bangalore	07/24
L2586	S M Khandelwal	Vadodara	04/24

**DONATIONS**

A2933	V Varkata Rao	Hyderabad	10000
A0081	S S Mehangra	Patiala	125
A3105	R N Mukherjee	New Delhi	600
A3345	AIARS India	Noida	5000
A2756	Raghubir Singh	Patiala	1000
M4140	AIACG Penrs	Nilgiris	200
A4318	Trilochan Singh	Yamuna Nagar	625
A2633	Rtd Emp Wel Assn	Vishakhapatnam	300
M3663	Rly Penrs Assn	Sahibganj	375
L9356	S C Maheshwari	Gurgaon	1200

**OVERDUE ASSNS/MEMBERS MARCH 2021**

Sewa Nirvuatt Saghatan	M0854
Redt Rly Men Fed	A1307
P & T Pens Assn	M1302
Varista Rly Pens Kalyan	A3081
P & T & Cent Pens Assn	A3604
Retd Rly Office Assn	A0098
Post & Tele Pens Assn	A3109

Cent Govt Pen	M3655	<b>OVERDUE ASSNS / MEMBERS APRIL 2021</b>	
DOT & BSNL Pens Assn	A0810	P C Chawla	9958861091 M5150
Nagaland Pens Assn	A3133	K K Sardana	8130366570 A3606
Rly Senior Citizen Welfare Assn	M8021	M R Vashist	9810530869 A2532
Cent & State Pens	A1429	Retd Sr Citi Brotherhood	9350351680 A3489
Libuary, Arun Vihar Comm Centre	M8982	G K Aneja	9971846737 L2759
the Welfare of Former Cent	A3668	J L Aggarwal	NA A9913
Retd Rly Emp Welfare Assn	A0247	Nirmal Kanta Jaitly	01122153877 M8028
IAS Retd Officer Assn	M6750	R D Malik	9416731560 L2034
Retd Rly Emp Pens Assn	A0908	Er Tarlochan Singh Jaggi	9466048018 A3709
DEF & Rly Pens Assn	A0298	S P Kaura	9416129233 L9101
Secy C G P Assn	A0337	Jai Dev	NA A3431
Haryana Govt Pens Assn	A3704	R C Gupta	9478469026 A0925
Doon Cent Pens Assn	A3982	Bansi Lal	9876061752 A1237
Madhya Pradesh Pens Samaj	A4300	A I A of R O of S of India	9811416099 A3345
FED of Pens Assn Govt	A4041	K K Vashist	09415797526 M7360
Rly Pens Assn	M5610	Harish Kumar	NA A3159
Rly Pens Assn Mehasna	A4307	Kotnis Kumar Sangal	9716956708 A3173
South Eastren Rly Pens Assn	M7487	Kailash Chandra Gupta	NA A3602
All India Postal/RMS Assn	A3800	All India Orgn of Penrs	9152550507 M1476
Govt Pens Welfare Assn	M8586	Raghubir Prasad Gupta	9027400935 A1194
All India Rly Pens Assn	A0614	U C Vaishnav	02752-237240 L2332
Govt Pens Welfare Org	M8657	G A Parmar	275044915 L9186
The Connmera Public Library	M1413	AIBSN Rtd E Assn Gujarat	9426635050 A3430
The Cent Library	M1414	Amulakh B Shah	0265-2630741 M7687
The National Library	M1415	D S Pacheko	NA A9416
EX Indian Rly Mens Assn	M6351	R C CHaturvedi	NA A2757
Vinod Kumar Aagarwal	A3844	Syed Mustaq Ali	9869810471 A2736
Krishan Gopal Sud	M6302	Vinod S Pande	9975750943 A3195
B K Sehgal	M8831	A R Patel	9303239865 M5910
P K Abhaykaner	A3104	N Chttibabu	9849854918 M8923
R N Mukherjee	A3105	E Krishna Murthy	NA A9911
K Lakshmi Narayana	A1371	S K S Sharma	040-23404771 L2937
V N Gupta	M8856	K R G Durga Pd Rao	9440065999 A9582
Raghunadhan Singh Tyagi	A3112	T V R Sharma	NA A4070
H B Lall	M3754	M V Ramanamurthy	NA A9910
Honaji P Bodhmage	A2867	Venkata Rao Ayyagari	9493740249 A0858
Samir Kumar Chakarborty	M7977	K Krishnaiah	NA A2171
Sat Pal Mittal	WL9131	S D Mistri	0836-2460941 M8894
M S Gujar	M8008	Smt K Bhomma	8762058978 A3166
Ashok Kumar Chatterjee	M8016	C G Penrs. Assn.	9400609321 A2678
N Ningle	A1858	Abhijit Roychoudhury	NA A3196
Rajinder Singh Lamba	A3928	Sudhir Chand Dutta	9674070032 M5672
Sanaysi Rao Pilla	A4189	Amrendra Roy	9002877009 A1257
ER Naduru Narayana Rao	A4194	Kanai Lal Poddar	9954713938 M6648
D V Adinaryana	A2579	M Raghunath	9573336270 A4314
Sita Ram Chowdhary	A2582	Harish Chander	9878233522 A4317
R S Raidas	A2584		

April - 2021

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**Clarification regdg eligibility of the family pens who are beneficiaries of BSNLMRS to migrate to CGHS**

BSNL CO OFF Admin Cell, Janpath, New Delhi-110001 No: BSNLCO-ADMN/12(12)/4/2021-ADMN dt: 26.03.21  
To All Head of Circles, All Head of BSNI. Units, BSNL.

**Sub: Clarification regdg eligibility of the family pens who are beneficiaries of BSNLMRS to migrate to CGHS and reimbursement of one time CGHS subsn fee paid by the BSNL employee to the CGHS authority.**

In reference to the above captioned subject representations are being received from various employees Unions/Associations, BSNL circles, retired employees regarding clarification on migration to CGHS by BSNL family pensioners (Dependents of the deceased retired BSNL employee) who are availing BSNLMRS facility and reimbursement of the life time subscription to CGHS as one-time payment.

2. Vide BSNLCO letter NO: BSNL/Admn.1/14-15/09 (Pt) dt 02.04.14 (Copy enclosed), the decision of extension of CGHS facilities to retired BSNL employees who are in receipts of Centl Civil Pension/Pro-rata Pension was conveyed.

3. Vide BSNLCO letter No: BSNL/Admn.I/14-15/09 (Pt) dt 29.07.16 (Copy enclosed), Approval of the Management Committee of BSNL was conveyed for reimbursement of one time CGHS subscription fee, paid by the BSNL employee to the CGHS authority. This was applicable to only those BSNL employees who surrender BSNLMRS facility and opt for CGHS facility.

Further, it was also decided by the MC that the retired BSNL employees and their dependents are not eligible to opt BSNLMRS facility in future, once they migrate to CGHS facility.

4. Vide BSNL CO ltr No: BSNL/Admn.I/14-15/09 (Pt) dt:22.11.18 (Copy enclosed) it has been clarified that the order dt 29.07.16 regarding reimbursement of one time CGHS subscpton fees are effective only from the prospective date.

5. Vide BSNL CO letter No: dated: 24.09.2004 & 15.01.2021 (Copy enclosed), Clarification on eligibility of Spouse and dependents of deceased BSNL employees were issued.

6. In continuation and context of above subject, the matter is examined and following is clarified:-

The family pensioners (Dependents of the deceased retired BSNL employees) who get the CGHS facility by surrendering BSNLMRS card/facility are also allowed for one time reimbursement of CGHS subscription fee paid to CGHS authority for migrating to the CGHS facility.

This has the approval of the Competent Authority.

DGM(Admin) BSNL CO, New Delhi

<b>NOTIONAL D R FOR PENSIONERS</b>						
All India CPI (IW)	Sept 2020	Oct 2020	Nov 2020	Dec 2020	Jan 2021	Feb 2021
Base 2001=100	340	344	345	342	340	342
% increase over 01.06.06	185.93%	187.34%	188.5%	189.39%	190.11%	191.11%
% increase over 01.01.16	26.62%	27.23%	27.77%	28.15%	28.47%	28.92%

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