

No:BDPA(I)/FP/2022

Dated 23rd, June, 2022

To:

Shri S K Vermaji

Jt. Secretary,

Department of Telecommunications,

Sanchar Bhawan, Ashoka Road,

NEW DELHI 110 001

Re: Request to prescribe uniform procedure for examining cases for unmarried/widow daughter for approval of Family Pension.

Hon'ble Shri Vermaji,

1. As a welfare measure, Govt. of India has made provision to sanction FP to unmarried/widow/divorcee daughter and that helps the family member of Pensioner for survival and comfortable livelihood. DOPPW has made provision and also given some guidelines which are not being followed by the CCAs. We draw your kind attention to the following difficulties being experienced by such pensioners.

2. Whenever such case arises, the FP has to apply to the concerned appointing authorities of Pensioners. *There was no difficulty so long as sanctioning authority for such cases was AO Telecom, who was also under the administrative control of the same appointment under DoT.*

3. Now, after formation of BSNL, there are sea changes in the set up and in last two decade many SSAs have been merged; so now examining such cases become difficult task to determine appointing authorities.

4. In such circumstances, cases are now being examined by SSA Heads and forwarded to the CCA for approval and the CCA issues sanction for Family Pension. There starts cumbersome procedure for FP Applicant. *There is no staff equipped with ruling on such provision and cases are being examined as per mindset of the concerned officer.* A committee is appointed in such cases to decide the case but there is no specific provision for appointing members in such committee and as such each SSA Heads follows different procedure for want of uniform method of modus operandi to be followed

5. Rues demand to determine sources available for livelihood of the Family Pensioner and there is clarification exists that there is no need to ask for no objection certificate to ask other family members of the Pensioners; but in all cases the Family Pensioner is compelled to seek such no objection from the judiciary.

6. The rule says to examine income of Family Pensioner; whereas in many cases income of family is seen and the Family Pensioner is expected to be depend upon them as the Pensioner

lives valuable house of his/her parent; wherewith the Family Pensioner has no share according to our Hindu Custom.

7. *Rule permit acceptance of Income Certificate Declared by the Family Pensioner before judicial magistrate or even permitting self declaration.* But in all cases; a certificate from Tehsildar is insisted upon. This become difficult task for Family Pensioner as Tehsildar/Mamlatdar are given instructions by the state government not to issue income certificate for less than Rs.1,50,000 to avoid misuse of their multifarious welfare activities. We have number of such cases with us which are rejected only for want of Income certificate from Tehsildar/Mamlatdar/Collector.

8. During pandemic time of Covid-19, many Family Pensioner had faced ill effect of the hazard and their whatever saving was available in the form of Fixed Deposit have been exhausted; but unfortunately committee consider the same amount available before examining time as sources of income.

9. *When the SSA head rejects the application of the Family Pensioner; there is no provision for him/her to approach the concerned CCA who is sanctioning authority.*

10. In such case, when he/she tried to approach the CCA through representation/Pension adalat, the authority that had rejected is asked to re-examine the case; as he has no option but justify its earlier stand.

- A. **Sir, we propose that now when the CCA is competent authority for according approval/sanction for family pension and is custodian of service books of the Pensioner, he should assigned the work of processing the case at his level; and in case there are difficulties for him to process such cases; he should be authorized to decide any other authority to examine such cases.**
- B. Further till such time, new instructions are issue, we propose that in cases are rejected by the SSA Heads and Pensioner feel aggrieved, his/her appeal should be examined by CCA himself or by assigning any other authority which he feels fit; **except the authority that has rejected the case. This will give justice to all Family Pensioner Cases.**
- C. **We also request to issue the instructions issued through revised Pension Rules 2022 on 23rd December, 2021 by all CCAs to determine income criteria and related other instructions.**

With regards,

Yours Sincerely,

(D.D. MISTRY)
General Secretary.