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PENSIONERS' CO-ORDINATOR

'For the Elders, By the Elders'

Organ of the Co-ordination Committee
of
CENTRAL GOVERNMENT PENSIONERS ASSOCIATIONS, CHANDIGARH

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KALEIDOSCOPE

(P S BEDI, DIG (RETD) BSF)

Parity of Pension for Pre-2006 Pensioners – judgment of 01 Nov,2011- Progress there-of

On the advice of Ministry of Finance and in consultation with the Ministry of Law, the Govt of India filed an appeal in Delhi high Court against the judgment of Principal Bench of CAT, Delhi on OA 655 / 2010 (01-11-2011), upholding the Partial Parity for Pre-2006 retirees as recommended by the 6th CPC and accepted by the Govt of India in its Resolution published in the gazette of India on 29-08-2008. The Delhi High Court heard the case on 19 Mar, 2011, and refused to grant the stay. The next date of hearing fixed for 4th May, 2012.

(Some extracts of the Appeal filed by the govt can be perused on our website : cccgpa.in)

In the meanwhile, contempt petition against non-implementation of the judgment of 01-11-2011 in the OA 655-2010 was also heard by the full Bench of Principal Bench of CAT, Delhi on 14 March, 2012. The Govt advocate requested for more time to reply. Considering the age profile of the petitioners, and in spite of no stay orders, the Tribunal posted the next hearing on 21 March, 2012, but the hearing was again postponed to 28 Mar,2012. However, as the Appeal of the Govt in the Delhi High Court is to be heard on 4-5-2012, Contempt Petition may be pended till then.

Case for Parity in pension filed in CAT, Chandigarh by I A & A D Pensioners Association

The Hon'ble CAT, Chandigarh delivered its judgment in the case filed by Association of Retired Officers of I A & A D, Chandigarh , granting 'Modified Parity' in pension to Pre-2006 retirees, as per the recommendations of the CPC and, on similar lines of the judgment of 01 Nov,2011 delivered by the Principal Bench of CAT, Delhi. Four months time has been given for the implementation of the judgment.

(details of the judgment can be perused on Website ; cget.gov.in- Case O A 509 - 2011 of CAT, Chandigarh)

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RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED IN THE MANAGING COMMITTEE MEETING OF CCCGPA HELD ON 26-2-2012

1 FILLING OF CAVEAT / INTERVENER IN CASE OF APPEAL AGAINST OA 655-2010 OF CAT NEW DELHI FOR MODIFIED PARITY OF PENSION OF PRE-2006 PENSIONERS:

a) Working Committee of CCCGPA regretted that the Union Government had not implemented the unanimous judgment of Full Bench of Principal Bench of CAT New Delhi in OA 655-2010 for grant of Modified Parity to Pre-2006 Pensioners – as per accepted recommendations of the Sixth CPC - nullifying the OMs of DOP dated 3-10-2008, 14-10-2008 and 11-2-2009.

Working Committee of CCCGPA, therefore, resolve to file a Caveat / Intervener by CCCGPA in Delhi High Court, to be heard as an affected party to contest against the Appeal by the Govt. against the judge,emt of Full Bench of CAT (PB) New Delhi, in OA 655-2010, and to contest the Appeal effectively for and on behalf of the Central Govt. Pensioners.

b) Working Committee CCCGPA authorize the Secretary General CCCGPA, Shri Harchandan Singh, to file the Caveat to plead as a Party against the said Appeal against the CAT Judgment in OA 655-2010 for grant of Modified Parity to Pre-2006 Pensioners and to file Documents and Affidavits on behalf of CCCGPA in connection with this case and to take such other action as considered appropriate & expedient for the pursuance of the case – in consultation with Chairman CCCGPA.

c) Working Committee further resolve and authorize the Secretary General to explore the possibilities of filing the said Caveat / Intervener jointly with other organization of Pensioners (including the Bharat Pensioners Samaj (BPS) and Railway Senior Citizens Association (RSCWS) – in order to add further strength to the cause of the Pensioners – on this vital issue of grant of Modified Parity to Pre-2006 Pensioners – as per accepted recommendations of the Sixth CPC.

2 PROPOSALS TO FILE COURT CASE REG. QUANTUM OF FIXED MEDICAL ALLOWANCE (FMA):

a) Working Committee CCCGPA rued that the Fixed Medical Allowance (FMA) of Rs.300 pm was extremely inadequate causing much hardship to the old Pensioners who had faithfully served the Nation for long years but were now being badly ignored by the Govt. in getting proper treatment for themselves and their dependents with the paltry sum of Rs.300 pm granted as FMA – in case they don't join the CGHS or opt out of OPD treatment under CGHS (or under similar Schemes of Central Government Departments – like RELHS of Railways etc) – since residing at a distance from these facilities – or in non-CGHS / non-RELHS areas (in hundreds of cities and thousands of Villages all over India).

b) Working Committee CCCGPA decide that in case the FMA was not revised by the Government within a reasonable period of time (of about 3 months) even after submitting another detailed Memorandum by the Secretary General CCCGPA to the Prime Minister against this continuous injustice – based on the new facts which had emerged out of the documents received by CCCGPA under RTI Act; then, the Working Committee resolve that - a Court case be filed on behalf of the CCCGPA in CAT for an appropriate revision to the Pensioners for grant of minimum Rs. 1200 pm as FMA as given to the employees & Pensioners of EPFO – under Ministry of Labour (GOI)

c) Working Committee CCCGPA authorize Secretary General CCCGPA, Shri Harchandan Singh, to file the said Court Case for Revision of Fixed Medical Allowance, in CAT Chandigarh and to file other documents and Affidavits on behalf of CCCGPA in connection with the above said case and to take such action as may be considered necessary & expedient for pursuance of the said case – in consultation with Chairman CCCGPA.

3. LEGAL FUND:

a) Working Committee of CCCGPA resolve to launch a Legal Fund of CCCGPA, and appealed to all the Affiliated Associations of CCCGPA and Pensioners at large to contribute liberally to the Legal Fund. It was resolved that a sum of Rs.20, 000 (Rupees Twenty thousand) be transferred to the "Legal Fund of CCCGPA" and be contributed to it forthwith from the reserve fund of "Pensioners Coordinator".

b) It was further decided that each of the major affiliated Associations shall initially contribute a minimum of Rs.5000 (per Affiliate) and each of the minor affiliated Associations shall initially contribute a minimum of Rs.2000 (per Affiliate)at the earliest, so as to meet with the legal & other related expenses. Further requirement of the funds shall be assessed by the Managing Committee of the CCCGPA and the Affiliated Associations shall contribute to the Legal Fund as required from time to time - for meeting the legal expenses on the Court Cases for and on behalf of the CCCGPA.

MINUTES OF MANAGING COMMITTEE CCCGPA, CHANDIGARH MEETING HELD ON 26-2-2012

Shri Rajpal Sharma, Chairman CCCGPA presided over the Meeting – (which was attended by 21 Members of the Managing Committee).

1 In his opening remarks, Shri Rajpal, while welcoming the Members, explained the situation created of late due non-implementation of the judgment of CAT Delhi and filing of the Appeal by the Government in Delhi High Court against the said judgment for Modified Parity to Pre-2006 Pensioners. He regretted that the Government had also not accepted the demand for enhancement of the Fixed Medical Allowance from 300 to Rs.1200 pm – at par with EPFO - as demanded by CCCGPA. He felt that resorting to legal course of action was the only remedy – for these issues.

2. Shri Harchandan Singh, Secretary General, explained the judgment of CAT for Modified Parity in detail. He moved two Resolutions – one for "FILING OF CAVEAT / INTERVENER IN CASE OF APPEAL AGAINST OA 655-2010 OF CAT NEW DELHI FOR MODIFIED PARITY OF PENSION OF PRE-2006 PENSIONERS" AND ANOTHER FOR "FILING COURT CASE FOR REVISION OF FIXED MEDICAL ALLOWANCE (FMA)".

Secretary General strongly urged upon the Managing committee to adopt these resolutions to play an effective role in the struggle for the welfare of Pensioners. He explained that even though the case for Modified Parity affects about 25 to 30 % Pensioners, the battle for "Full Parity" of Pension – (which is the ultimate demand on the issue) - shall be lost forever unless the Modified Parity at the minimum level was got restored – through the Court Case – which was already underway.

Shri A. L. Vohra asked the Committee to wait & watch the situation and not to resort to legal action for the present till Government fails to implement the CAT Judgment even after a decision on the Appeal of the Government. After detailed discussions, following Resolutions were unanimously passed:

3. Resolutions adopted in the MANAGING Committee of CCCGPA

(1) Filing of Caveat / Intervener in case of appeal against OA 655-2010 of CAT New Delhi for Modified Parity of Pension of Pre-2006 Pensioners:

(Details given earlier in this issue)

(2) Proposal to file Court Case reg. Quantum of Fixed Medical Allowance (FMA):

(Details given earlier in this issue)

(3). Legal Fund:

(Details given earlier in this issue)

4. <u>List of Members of Managing Committee & General Body of CCCGPA nominated by respective Affiliated Associations</u>: The affiliated Associations – which had not so far given the details, were asked to give the same at the earliest (latest before 31st March 2012) - (including the Names, Addresses, Mobile & Telephone Nos, Email Addresses etc. of each of the Members of Managing Committee & General Body of CCCGPA – nominated by them).

The Secretary General informed that the above information was urgently required both for preparing the Electoral Rolls of the forthcoming Elections scheduled to be held in July, 2012, as well as for inclusion the Directory of CCCGPA. All agreed to give the information at the earliest – if not done so far.

5. <u>Affiliation Fee</u>: It was unanimously resolved that all Affiliated Associations will give the Affiliation Fee of CCCGPA before 30th April, 2012, as per Constitution.

6. <u>AGM & Bi-annual Elections of CCCGPA</u>:

a) It was resolved that the AGM & Bi-annual Elections of the Managing Committee of CCCGPA, shall be held in the month of July, 2012 – as per schedule to be fixed by the Election Commissioner – in consultation with the Chairman & Secretary General CCCGPA.

b) <u>Nomination of Election Commissioner</u>: Chairman nominated Shri K. C. Bhagat as the Election Commissioner for conducting the Bi-annual elections of CCCGPA. The house approved the nomination of Shri K. C. Bhagat. Election Commissioner shall issue the Electoral Role, Election Notice on or before 15th May, 2012.

7. <u>Additional CGHS Wellness Canters</u>: Considering the extreme difficulties of the Pensioners in the Tri-city, it was resolved to vigorously pursue the issue of opening of at least three more CGHS Wellness Centers in the Tri-city – including one each at Punchkula, Mohali & Chandigarh – besides the one already existing in Sector 45 Chandigarh – considering the large population of the CGHS beneficiaries the Tri-city, excessive rush in the existing facility and the long distances over which the patients have to travel.

Secy Gen CCCGPA, Secy Gen RSCWS, Secy Gen BPS, Secy Gen RREWA and Org. Secy CCCGPA, met senior advocate (Mrs) Minakshi Arora on 28-2-2012, at Delhi to finalise the details of filing the intervener in the High Court , Delhi against the appeal filed by the GOI against the judgment of Principal Bench of the C A T , Delhi in the case OA 655/2010.
It was decided that BPS, RSCWS & CCCGPA, Chandigarh would jointly implead as a party to contest the appeal filed by the GOI against the judgment of CAT in OA -655-2010. Initial fee of Rs 75,000/- will be required to be remitted to the advocate as Advance to lodge our case.

CCCGPA APPEALS TO ALL AFFILIATED ASSOCIATIONS & PENSIONERS / FAMILY PENSIONERS
TO
CONTRIBUTE LIBERALLY TO "LEGAL FUND" OF CCCGPA
AND
JOIN THE STRUGGLE FOR JUSTICE TO PENSIONERS
Donations & Contributions to LEGAL FUND may be remitted by local or at par cheque / Demand Draft or money order in favour of" CCCGPA, CHANDIGARH" and sent to
Shri R. P. Sharma, Secretary Finance, CCCGPA, H. No. HM-250 (Near J & K Bank), Phase 2, Mohali-160055 (Mobile : 9356826428), E-mail : rpsharma250@gmail.com

CGHS & HEALTHCARE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ADVISROY COMMITTEE HELD ON 31-01-2012 IN THE CGHS WELLNESS CENTRE NO-1, SECTOR 45, CHANDIGARH (EXTRACTS)

The meeting was attended by the following members:-

(1) Sh Raghubir Singh, IAAS (Retd) formerly Add. Secy, Min of H & F W.
(2) Sh.P.S.Bedi-DIG(Retd)-Sr.ViceChairman,Central Govt.Pensioners Coordination Committee, Chandigarh.
(3) Sh G S Bhogal, Gen Secy, Senior Citizens Forum, Zirakpur
(4) Sh D D Sharma, Survey of India, Representative Serving Employees.
(5) Sh.Ravi Kumar, Representative Goyal medicos II, Plot No384, Industrial Area, Phase II, Chandigarh, (Local chemist)
(6) Dr. Ashwani Kumar Seniaray, Chairperson, Advisory Committee, C M O I/C, CGHS WC-1, Sector 45, Chandigarh.

Welcome Address:

Dr. Ashwani Kumar Seniaray, CMO (NFSG) Incharge CGHS Wellness Center No 1, welcomed the members of the Advisory Committee

The Committee members were apprised of the initiative taken by the CGHS for procurement of drugs directly from the manufactures. This will ensure availability of commonly prescribed drugs in the wellness center and also bring down the expenditure on local purchase of medicines. . Regarding issue of individual Plastic Cards to the CGHS beneficiaries in Chandigarh, CMO intimated that this is an All India Project, and we expect this to happen very soon for Chandigarh CGHS beneficiaries.

MRC status/Pendency of claims:

As per the information from Addl Directors office, the Medical Reimbursement Bills of the CGHS pensioner beneficiaries have been cleared up to Nov, 2011.

Sh P S Bedi, indicated that some pensioners had pointed out that the reimbursement claims received by them do not indicate the reason for amount disallowed and deductions made. At one of the meetings with the Addl Director CGHS Chandigarh last year (2011), he had assured that while disbursing the medical claims to the beneficiaries, the 'Calculation Sheet' would be provided for the satisfaction of the claimant. The latest instructions from Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, vide their No 11024/8/2011/CGHS (P) dated 14 Nov, 2011 have also reiterated in Para3 (vii) '…..claimant shall be informed of the same along with bill No, amount admissible and details of disallowance clearly indicating the specific reasons/grounds for deductions'. It was requested that this must be ensured in the case of CGHS beneficiaries in Chandigarh also.

The members of the grievances committee once again reiterated that points of interest raised in various meetings on behalf of the CGHS beneficiaries be also discussed in the bi-monthly meetings being organized at the level of Add Director CGHS.

Performance of Local Chemist:

Performance of local chemist has been satisfactory and drugs are supplied in time and there has been no case of supply of substitute medicines by the local chemist. The representative of the Local Chemist indicated that their certain pending bills have been cleared and no problem is faced by them.

Availability of Drugs in the WC:

As per records, there are 19 Generic items and 168 Proprietary items available in the WC.

Amenities for the beneficiaries:

The concern of the CGHS beneficiaries was once again voiced regarding non availability of approved Diagnostic Centres for conducting such important tests as ECG, Echo, TMT and Holter etc. The pensioners have to spend amounts in Thousands for these essential tests, prescribed by the authorized specialists and reimbursement takes considerable time, which is an additional burden on the aged / elderly pensioners. Add Dir CGHS is again requested to expedite early empanelment of diagnostic Centres for all the essential tests.

Sh P S Bedi, again requested for empanelment of Diagnostic center in Mohali or to authorize the Diagnostic Laboratory of Silver Oaks Hospital for the benefit of the CGHS beneficiaries residing in Southern sectors of Chandigarh and Mohali.

Sh G S Bhogal again raised the point for establishing a CGHS dispensary in Panchkula, which has become a dire necessity in view of huge rush of OPD patients in the CGHS Wellness Center, Sector 45. The beneficiaries from Panchkula and adjoining areas have to travel long distance amid huge traffic jams, and to face long waiting time in the CGHS dispensary in Chandigarh.

Sh D D Sharma, representative of serving employee beneficiaries, indicated that there are some doubts regarding the consultation charges to be paid by serving employees to the specialists.

The committee members again raised the point regarding erecting CCTV cameras in the dispensary to monitor the rush of OPD patients and for security purpose.

Staff Punctuality & Behavior:

The conduct and behavior of the staff of the Wellness Center has been very good. They are courteous and helpful to the senior/aged CGHS beneficiaries.Sh Mohan Singh, Male Attendant who had been adjudged as the Best worker for the quarter ending 31 Dec, 2011 was presented with 'Certificate of Appreciation' in the presence of Advisory Committee members and the staff of the CGHS Wellness Center.

Cleanliness & Maintenance of Wellness Centre:

The Wellness Centre was found to be clean and well maintained. However, the rush of large number of OPD patients at the Wellness Center is a matter of concern, which requires immediate attention of higher CGHS authorities. Including the need for erecting CCTV cameras at strategic locations for security and monitoring. Besides there is need for an additional CGHS dispensary to cater for such large number of beneficiaries.

Grievance Redressal:

The complaint box was opened and no letter was found.

(Dr. Ashwani Kumar Seniaray), CMO (NFSG)

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ADVISROY COMMITTEE HELD ON 25-02-2012 IN THE CGHS WELLNESS CENTRE NO-1, SECTOR 45, CHANDIGARH (EXTRACTS)

The meeting was attended by the following members:-

(1) Sh Raghubir Singh, IAAS (Retd) formerly Add. Secy, Min of H & F W.

(2) Sh.P.S.Bedi-DIG(Retd)-Sr.Vice Chairman,Central Govt.Pensioners Coordination Committee, Chandigarh.

(3) M C Arya, Gen Secy, DAPWS

(4) Sh D D Sharma, Survey of India, Representative Serving Employees.

(5) Dr. Ashwani Kumar Seniaray, Chairperson, Advisory Committee, C M O I/C, CGHS WC-1, Sector 45, Chandigarh.

Welcome Address:

Dr. Ashwani Kumar Seniaray, CMO (NFSG) Incharge CGHS Wellness Center No 1, welcomed the members of the Advisory Committee

The CMO intimated that the Wellness Center is facing disruption of Internet connectivity, resulting in the shutdown of computer network. This leads to stoppage of work and the doctors are unable to attend to the patients. The staff of BSNL and NIC on being informed takes considerable time to restore the connectivity. These disruptions cause considerable inconvenience to CGHS patients and also results in increasing the rush of patients in the waiting hall of the Wellness Center. The members of the Advisory Committee present became witness to such a happening during the course of the meeting. It was reiterated by the members that Addl Director, CGHS may immediately take up case with the BSNL and NIC authorities to find a proper and permanent solution to this problem at the earliest, for smooth functioning of the dispensary.

MRC status/Pendency of claims:

As per the information from Addl Directors office, the Medical Reimbursement Bills of the CGHS pensioner beneficiaries have been cleared up to January, 2012.

The members of the grievances committee once again reiterated that points of interest raised in various meetings on behalf of the CGHS beneficiaries are also discussed in the bi-monthly meetings being organized at the level of A D CGHS. Last meeting at the level of Addl Director CGHS was held on 4 Nov, 2011, and it is now overdue. It may be considered that besides the representatives of pensioners associations, the members of the Grievances & Advisory Committee be called for this meeting as they are in constant knowhow of the day to day problems of CGHS beneficiaries and can put forward the points effectively.

Performance of Local Chemist:

The local chemist failed to attend the meeting, for which the Addl Director CGHS may take appropriate action.

Availability of Drugs in the WC:

As per records, there are 16 Generic items and 105 Proprietary items available in the WC.

Amenities for the beneficiaries:

There has been no progress in getting the required diagnostic centres approved for conducting such important tests as ECG, Echo, TMT and Holter etc, which point has been stressed for last number of months. The pensioners have to spend amounts in Thousands for these essential tests, prescribed by the authorized specialists and reimbursement takes considerable time, which is an additional burden on the aged / elderly pensioners. Add Dir CGHS is again requested to expedite early empanelment of diagnostic Centres for all the essential tests. No progrees has also been seen for empanelment of suitable diagnostic centre for Mohali and Panchkula.It was again stressed that case for empanelment of hospitals in Panchkula be actively considered.

Similarly, case for opening of additional CGHS dispensaries in Panchkula and Mohali to reduce the overcrowding in the Sector 45 Wellness Center should be taken up vigorously by the A D CGHS.

The committee members again raised the point regarding erecting CCTV cameras in the dispensary to monitor the rush of OPD patients and for security purpose.

Staff Punctuality & Behavior:

The conduct and behavior of the staff of the Wellness Center has been very good. They are courteous and helpful to the senior/aged CGHS beneficiaries.

Cleanliness & Maintenance of Wellness Centre:

The Wellness Centre was found to be clean and well maintained. The BSNL and NIC authorities be directed to rectify the faults leading to disruption of network connectivity, which causes undue rush in the Wellness Center. The rush of large number of OPD patients at the Wellness Center is also a matter of concern, which requires immediate attention of higher CGHS authorities. Including the need for erecting CCTV cameras at strategic locations for security and monitoring. Besides there is need for additional CGHS dispensaries in the tricity to cater for large number of beneficiaries.

Grievance Redressal:

The complaint box was opened and no letter was found.

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CCCGPA Memo to Prime Minister & Finance Minister on Fixed Medical Allowace

C C C G P Chandigarh letter No CCCGPA-chd / Memo / PM-MOF /2012-13 dated 15-02-2012 addressed to the Prime Minister and Finance Minister, G O I with copy to Secretary, Ministry of Finance (Expenditure). Secretary, Ministry of P PG & P, Director, Dept. of P & P W, Director (PP), Ministry of P.P.G & P, and Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare

Subject: Revision of Fixed Medical Allowance (FMA) to Rs 1200 for Pensioners - at par with EPFO

Reference: i) DOP (P&PW) OM No. 4/252008-P&PW(D) Dated 26-5-2010 (Copy attached as Annexure I) ii) Agenda item No. 9 of the Meeting of JCM (NC) held on 18-5-2011

We seek your benign intervention in an issue of extreme hardship for Central Government Pensioners on account of extremely meager amount of Rs.300 p.m. granted as Fixed Medical Allowance (FMA) (vide DOP OM cited above) - to those Pensioners who had not joined the CGHS or had opted out of OPD facility.

The amount of FMA is so negligible that it does not meet with even a "fraction" of day-to-day Medical expenses for treatment of old-age problems. It defeats the very purpose for which it is purported to be paid. It seems to be a cruel joke with the Senior Citizens who have given valuable years of their lives to the service of the Nation. Kind attention is invited to the following facts:

Inflation in Cost of (OPD) treatment:

Cost of OPD treatment per Card Holder under CGHS, had increased 5 to 6 times since 2003-04 (based on which MoH had initially recommended the amount of Rs. 300 PM plus DA as FMA). As per position given by the MoH&FW (Ministry of Health & Family Welfare) in the Meeting of Cabinet Secretaries held on 15-4-2010, the total per card holder expenditure on OPD treatment, had increased from Rs.3570 p.a. (or say Rs.300 pm) in 2003-04 to Rs.16,435 p.a. (i.e. Rs.1369 or say Rs. 1400 PM) in 2007-08 (as per information received under RTI Act). Adding to it the proportionate inflation for year up to May 2010 (when the revised amount of FMA was sanctioned), the expenditure per card holder can be placed at over Rs.1650 p.m. in 2009-10 and Rs.2000 p.m. in 2010-11 – as per details given below:

Sl. No.	Year	Average Annual Cost per CGHS Card Holder (For Treatment under CGHS)			
		Rs. PA	Rs. PM	% rise of cost over previous year	Remarks / Source
1.	2006-07	13713	1142.75	----	As advised by MoH& FW in the Meeting of Secretaries on 15-4-2010 (as per RTI)
2.	2007-08	16435	1369.58	19.65% *	
3.	2009-10	19664	1638.70	19.65%	Estimated on proportionate % rise in the previous year 2006-07 to 2007-08 *

2. OPD Expenditures considered for FMA based on discounted cost of Medicines:

The cost of OPD treatment Per Card Holder (as mentioned in Para I above), considered by MoH & FW, for basing the proposal for FMA, was based on cost of Medicines purchased under CGHS – with discounts between 12% to 30% (for bulk supply) - as clear in the Note of MoH & FW on item ii) of the Agenda for Meeting of Secretaries held on 15-4-2010 (as per information received under RTI Act). Actual MRP or cost of Medicines payable in the open market for day-to-day treatment (by Pensioners not getting OPD treatment under CGHS) is much higher than the expenditure considered by MoH & FW-per card holder of CGHS.

3. Non-counting of DA or inflation for FMA:

Ministry of Health as well as DOP (P&PW) had recommended for linking the FMA with inflation and adding DA – to offset the impact of continuous rise in the cost of Medicines and Consultations etc for Day-to-Day out-door treatment. But the MoF(E) had not agreed to even this most reasonable proposal of MoH & EW & DOP - [made vide their OM F. No. S. 11030/10/2008-CGHS (P) dated 16-9-2008 to secretary DOP (P&PW)].

4. Non-revision of FMA for over 12 years – unlike Medical Allowance granted initially:

a) Medical Allowance was initially granted to Central Government employees in June 1986 – with the provision to revise the same every 3 years. This practice was followed up to 1997. But no revision had been done from 1997 to 2010 in the FMA of Rs.100 (granted after Fifth CPC).

b) FMA of Rs.100 granted in 1997 was revised after 13 years in May 2010 (vide DOP OM dated 18-5-2010 – cited above) and fixed at Rs.300 PM - as against Rs.800 pm + DA recommended by DOP&PW in 2007 and as against Rs.500 pm + DA recommended by both MoH & FW and DOP&PW in their note for the Meeting of the Secretaries held on 15-4-2010.

5. Rs.1200 PM granted as FMA in EPFO

a) Fixed Medical Allowance (FMA) of Rs.1200 is paid to the Employees & Pensioners of EPFO (Employees Provident Funds Organization) - under Ministry of Labour for day-to-day outdoor treatment (vide its Circular No. HRM-V/12(1)2003/ FMA/Vol-II dated: 11.1.2010 (Copy of the Office Circular of EPFO is attached as annexure II).

b) FMA for employees and Pensioners of EPFO had been revised every third year as many as 5 times between 1997 to 2010 – by as much as 33% in 1997, 25% in 2000, 66.67% in 2003, 140% in 2006 and by 100% in 2010 (granting Rs. 120 w.e.f. 1-1-97, Rs.150 w.e.f. 14-3-2000, Rs.250 w.e.f. 1-1-2003, Rs.600

w.e.f. 1-1-2006 and Rs.1200 as FMA w.e.f. 1-1-2009 (as per details submitted in Annexure III) – based on rise in the cost of Medicines & Consultation for day-to-day treatment.

c) All these revisions of FMA by EPFO were apparently done – with the approval of the Ministry of Finance / the Government. Section 5D(7) of (EPF Act) provides that rules and orders applicable to Officers & Employees of the Central Government shall be applicable to the Officers & Employees of the Central Board of EPF. However, it has been provided that where the Central Board (of EPF) is of the view that it is necessary to make a departure from the said rules or orders, in respect of any of the matters aforesaid, it shall obtain the prior approval of the Central Government.

6. a) Once the Government / MoF had approved the revision of FMA for employees and Pensioners of EPFO to Rs.600 PM from 1-1-2006 and Rs.1200 PM wef 1-1-2009 there was no reason or justification for the Government to turn down the demand of equivalent FMA for Central Government employees & pensioners – as demanded by JCM, SCOVA, and Associations representing the Pensioners and others.

b) At least it should not have been lower than that proposed by DOP and MOH & FW – who had proposed Rs. 500 + DA p.m. as FMA – even though it was very much on the lower side.

7. a) It was accepted by MoS (P&PW) in the Meeting of SCOVA (held on 20-9-2010) that the "amount of Rs.300 per month (as FMA) appears to be inadequate but the Government could not increase it further due to constraints of resources".

b) In the Meeting of JCM (NC) held on 18-5-2011, Official Side had agreed to ask MoH & FW to review the FMA – (in response to Agenda item No 9). But it is regretted that the proposal since given by MoH & FW for increase of FMA to Rs.500 p.m. had again been turned down by the MoS(Finance).

c) Resources should not be allowed to come in the way of providing the requisite means for proper treatment in the old age of the frail and ailing Senior Citizens - suffering from numerous chronic and other day-to-day medical problems. The constraint of resources – as cited by the Government (as mentioned by MoS in the said meeting of SCOVA) - is totally unjustified especially in respect of an item like Fixed Medical Allowance to Pensioners, in view of the following facts:

Responsibility of the Government towards health care of Pensioners – even if they are not members of CGHS / RELHS – as upheld by the various courts in numerous cases;

Observations of the Apex Court in Nakara's case:

"……when the employee was physically and mentally alert, he rendered unto his master the best, expecting him (his master) to look after him in the fall of life and that socio-economic justice would be rendered to those who in the heyday of their life, ceaselessly toiled for the employer on an assurance that in their old age, they would not be left in the lurch. Pension and Medical facility are such assurances, which are most needed when physical & mental prowess is ebbing, corresponding to aging process.

8. Insurance Scheme can't cover OPD treatment – as advised by MoH & FW

Sixth Pay Commission had proposed introduction of Medical Insurance for the Central Government employees and Pensioners. But no Insurance scheme would cover the OPD or day-to-day "Domiciliary" treatment; and in case it is to be covered – the premium will be very high – (as mentioned by representative of MoH & FW in the Meeting of Secretaries held on 15-4-2010 -vide Para 3 of the Minutes of the Meeting – as per information received under RTI).

9. a) Majority of the Pensioners don't have access to CGHS facility:

Majority of the Pensioners are residing in the non-CGHS areas. They have to purchase medicines from the open market and pay for consultation for day-to-day treatment – cost of which is ever rising – much above the paltry amount of FMA paid for day-to-day treatment to those who have opted out of OPD facility – since residing away from the facilities provided under the said schemes.

b) Cost of treatment requiring Hospitalization and or specialized treatment is exorbitant. But those who are not members of CGHS have to pay for any type of treatment (including Hospitalization and or specialized treatment as well as for Out-door treatment).

c) Those that have not joined the CGHS are discriminated against those who have joined it as they are getting free OPD treatment, free Hospitalization and free specialized treatment or reimbursement thereof - under the said schemes.

10. It is, therefore, requested that:

a) Fixed Medical Allowance (FMA) to Pensioners and Family Pensioners (who opt out of OPD treatment under CGHS – as residing at a distance from the CGHS facilities) may please be enhanced to Rs.1200 p.m. for "Out Door Treatment" (at par with EPFO);

b) i) FMA may be revised periodically (once every 3 years) to compensate for rise of cost of Medicines and treatment – as for employees & Pensioners of EPFO; OR

ii) DA is granted on the FMA to compensate for phenomenal rise of cost of Medicines and treatment – (as proposed by DOP (P&PW) and MoH) – (as has now been done in case of Transport Allowance for which DA is now counted), to avoid periodic review.

(Annexures I & II may be perused on our website : www.cccgpa.in)

REVISION OF FMA IN EPFO (Annexure III)

Date of effect	Amount of FMA PM Rs	%age rise
1-1-1994	90	50%
(1-1-1997	120	33%
14-3-2000	150	25%
1-1-2003	250	66.67
1-1-2006	600	140%
1-1-2009	1200	100 %

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Min of H & F W (Dept of H & F W) O M No: S.14025/10/2002/MS dated 21 March,2012

Subject: Revision of rates and guidelines for reimbursement of expenses on purchase of Hearing Aids under CS(MA) Rules, 1944 and CGHS-regarding

With reference to the above mentioned subject the undersigned is directed to refer to the Office memoranda of even No. dated 17, 11.2006 and 28, 10.2002 and OM Nos. S.14025/36/93/MS dated 26.03.94 and 17.08.1999 and to state that on the basis of recommendations of an Expert Committee, it has been decided to revise the rates and guidelines for hearing aids to he reimbursed under CS (MA) Rules, 1944 and CGHS.

2. The revised ceiling rates fixed for various types of Hearing Aids (for one can ear) are as under:

Body worn / Pocket type – Rs. 2.500/- Analogue BTE - Rs. 7,000/-
Digital BTE – Rs. 20,000/- ITC/CIC - Rs. 25,000/-

The cost of hearing aid shall include all Taxes including VAT and shall carry `3″ year Warranty. The cost of Analogue BTE/Digital BTE / ITC / CIC type hearing aid shall also include the cost of ear mould,

3. Beneficiaries covered under CS (MA) Rules, 1944/CGHS shall be eligible to obtain hearing aid after the same has been recommended by a Government E.N.T. Specialist on the basis of audiometric and audio logical assessment, ENT Specialist shall specify the type of hearing aid most suited for the beneficiary.

4. The permission to procure hearing aid shall be granted by Chief Medical Officer in-charge of CGHS Wellness Centre in case of CGHS pensioner beneficiaries and by the Head of Department /Office in case of serving employees and CGHS beneficiaries of Autonomous Bodies on the basis of recommendation of a Government Specialist and an undertaking that the beneficiary has not been reimbursed the cost of hearing aid in the preceding Five years.

5. Reimbursement claim shall he submitted to CGHS through CMO i/c of concerned dispensary by CGHS Pensioner beneficiary in the prescribed medical reimbursement claim form along with a photo copy of CGHS card, original bill of the Hearing aid and original copy of the permission letter. In case of other beneficiaries, the medical claim shall be submitted to the concerned Ministry / Department / Office. Reimbursement shall be limited to the ceiling rate or actual cost of the hearing aid, whichever is less.

6. Record of permissions granted for procurement of hearing aids shall be maintained by CGHS in respect of pensioner CGHS beneficiaries and by concerned Ministry / Department/ Office in respect of other beneficiaries,

7. Replacement of hearing aid may be permitted after 5 years on the basis of condemnation certificate issued by a technical expert and on approval of a Government ENT Surgeon. Maintenance and repair will be the responsibility of the beneficiary.

8. These orders shall supersede all the earlier orders issued on the subject.

9. The revised rates and guidelines shall come into force from the date of issue and shall be valid for a period of two years or till further revision, whichever is earlier.

10. This issues with the concurrence of Integrated Finance Division vide Dy.No. 5894 dated 19.03,2012 of the office of AS&FA, Min. of Health &Family Welfare.

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PROCUREMENT OF DRUGS / MEDICINES		
S.N0	**QUERY**	**ANSWER**
1	How CGHS beneficiaries can get life saving drugs & what documents are required	In Delhi- through CGHS Medical Stores Depot, Gole market. In other cities, request is to be submitted to Addln director of the city. Following documents are required; Prescription of specialist of Govt Hospital or CGHS approved Private Hospital Photocopy of Token card / Plastic Card Copy of permission, if prescription is from CGHS approved Private Hospital Utilization Certificate in original during subsequent visits,
2	What is a Utilization Certificate?	It is a certificate issued by the treating physician / CMO I/C , indicating that the medicines issued on previous occasion have been completely utilized for the treatment of the beneficiary,
3	For How long medicines can be issued at a time?	Up to a period of THREE months.
4	How much time the MSD takes to provide life saving drugs ?	2 to 3 working days. In case of emergency,on the same day.
5	How can a CGHS beneficiary get medicines from Wellness Center?	Medical Officer of the Wellness Center can prescribe according to the ailment
6	Can a beneficiary get medicines on the prescription of a Private doctor ?	No, except in emergency.
7	Can a beneficiary get medicines for longer period?	For chronic diseases like hypertension, diabetes etc,drugs can be issued for up to 3 months at a time. The power is vested with CMO For up to 6 months, in case the beneficiary visiting abroad.
8	What is the procedure for issue of medicines for 6 months?	Beneficiary has to submit application for obtaining permission from A D /J D along with following documents ; Copy of Valid CGHS Card / Token card Valid prescription for 6 months countersigned by HOD of specialty of govt hospital. Proof of station leaving like tickets, visa etc.
9	My father is 88 years old, can he be provided medicines at home?	Yes, Request to be submitted to the CMO I/C WC, who will instruct the ALC to deliver medicines at the resident.
10	Can a beneficiary have a choice to get all the drugs indented from local chemist?	No. Drugs available at the Wellness Center are issued. Only the drugs, which are not available in the WC, are indented from local chemist.
11	How long it takes to get supply of indented drugs from the chemist ?	Indented drugs are supplied by the chemist the next day for further disbursement to the beneficiaries.
12	Can the chemist substitute the medicines?	No
13	Can the drugs like antibiotics, if not available in the WC, be made available urgently from the local chemist?	Yes, beneficiary can collect the drugs from the chemist counter on the basis of authority form issued by the WC.

Ministry of H &FW O M F.No 12011/64/98=CGHS Desk-I/CGHS (P) dated 15-9-2011

Reimbursement when pensioners take treatment immediately after retirement before getting CGHS Cards

With reference to the above mentioned subject, the undersigned is directed to draw attention to the O M No S-1105/2/03=CGHS (P) dated 5th Nov,1993 and O M of number dated 1st July,1999 and to state that in response to several clarifications sought in this regard, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has now decided to clarify the matter as under :-

(i) In treatment taken and expenditure incurred thereon within the grace period of three months from the date of retirement will be allowed and expenditure reimbursable subject to the condition that the beneficiary has either obtained or applied for CGHS pensioners card with all documents and requisite CGHS subscription within one month of expiry of grace period of three months.

(ii) It is further clarified that the expenditure on treatment taken after the grace period of three months from date of retirement will not be reimbursable unless the beneficiary obtained a valid CGHS card or has applied for CGHS pensioners card with all documents and requisite subscription prior to taking such treatment.

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Ministry of H &FW No G27023/1/89/CGHS-CGHS II/CGHS (P) dated 11-01-2011

Sub: Increase in the impress money in CGHS dispensaries (Wellness Centers)

The present level of impress money in most of the dispensaries is Rs 600/-(Rupees Six hundred only) for meeting day to day contingent expenditure, which was fixed long ago. Over a period of time, in view of inflation and escalating costs, CMOs in charge of the dispensaries are finding it difficult to meet the minimum basic expenditure needed to keep the dispensary in working condition. Requests were received in the ministry that the level of impress money needs to be increased to a reasonable level so that day to day contigent expenditure could be handled without any delay.

After careful examination of the requests and in consultation with integrated Finance Division in the ministry for increase in the Impress Money in each dispensary, it has been decided that the impress money for each dispensary be raised to Rs 20,000/- (Rupees twenty Thousand only) per annum.Incurring of contingent by the CMOs of the dispensaries would be subject to the following delegation of power :

1. Head of office in each dispensary:

(i) Up to Rs 2,000/-(rupees two thousand only) in respect of each recurring expenditure in the dispensary, and

(ii) Up to Rs 5,000/- (Rupees Five thousand only) in respect of each non-recurring expenditure in the dispensary.

2. **Additional Directors of all Zones in Delhi / Additional Directors/ Joint Directors in CGHS cities in outside Delhi**, up to Rs 20,000/- (Rupees twenty Thousand only) – both recurring and non-recurring for each dispensary per annum.

These instructions take effect from the date of issue of this O M.

These issues with the concurrence of IFD (I-Health) vide Dy No C-2088 dated 20-12-2010.

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Ministry of H & F W (Dept of H & FW) O M S-11011/23/2009-CGHS D.II/ Hospital Cell(Part IX) dated 13-12-2011 addressed to medical Supts/ Directors/ Proprietors , CGHS Empanelled Hospitals/Diagnostic Labs/ Imaging Centres

Sub: Fire audit of Private Hospitals / Diagnostic Laboratories / imaging Centres empanelled under CGHS

With reference to the above mentioned subject the undersigned is directed to state in view of recent fire accident in a private hospital in Kolkata, it is considered necessary to review the fire safety measures undertaken by the private hospitals /Diagnostic Laboratories / imaging Centres empanelled under CGHS .

2 Accordingly Private Hospitals / Diagnostic Laboratories / imaging Centres under CGHs are requested that;

(i) A copy of NOC issued/ renewed by the concerned Fire Dept may be submitted to Addl Director / Joint Director of CGHS concerned.

(ii) Fire safety provisions installed at the institution to deal with fire accidents may be reviewed immediately in consultation with Fire Dept and gaps seen may be plugged.

(iii) Steps / drills may be put in place to prevent leakage of radiation in case of centres dealing with radioactive isotopes.

(iv)Nodal officers / persons may be identified and specific responsibility fixed for each of them to take necessary action in case of fire accidents.

(v)The identified staff may be got trained accordingly in consultation with Fire Dept.

(vi)Necessary mock drills may also be organized periodically to see that systems respond in time in case of disaster.

3 You are requested to take necessary time bound action in this regard under intimation to Director CGHS.

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Ministry of H & F W O M No S-11016/16/2010-CGHS (P) dated 24-01-2011

Sub: Delegation of powers for settlement of reimbursement Medical Claims etc.

The undersigned is directed to state that delegation of powers for settlement of reimbursement claims of expenditure incurred by CGHS beneficiaries was last revised during April,1999. After the delegation of powers in1999, Package Rates for various treatments / procedures have been revised three times. With the increase in the number of beneficiaries covered by the CGHS and also the increase in the number of procedures / treatments now being covered under the package rates, a large number of claims have to be referred to the Ministry and integrated Finance Division in the Ministry for approval. It is, therefore, felt that to speed up the process of reimbursement claims of individual beneficiaries and the bills submitted by hospitals for treatment given by them to the pensioner-CGHS beneficiaries, the powers delegated to the Additional Directors / Joint Directors of CGHS cities and Director CGHS need an upward revision. After careful examination of the matter in consultation with Integrated Finance Division of Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, it has been decided to revise the powers delegated to Additional Directors / Joint Directors CGHS and the Director CGHS as given below :

S,No	Post	Present delegated powers (Rs)	Revised delegated Power (Rs)
1 (a)	Additional Directors/ Joint Directors	2,00,000/-	5,00,000/-
(b)	Director CGHS	5,00,000/-	10.00.000/-
(c)	Additional Secy & Director Genl CGHS	Nil	25,00,000/-
2	Payment of Hospital bills for treatment given to pensioner beneficiaries		
(a)	Additional Directors/ Joint Directors	5,00,000/-	5,00,000/-
(b)	Director CGHS	5,00,000/-	10.00.000/-
(c)	Additional Secy & Director Genl CGHS	Nil	25,00,000/-
3	Unlisted Procedures		
(a)	Additional Directors/ Joint Directors	5,000/-	50,000/-
(b)	Director CGHS	20,000/-	75,000/-
(c)	Additional Secy & Director Genl CGHS	Nil	1,50,000/-
4	Procurement of Allopathic Medicines		
(a)	Additional Directors/ Joint Directors	2,00,000/-	5,00,000/-
(b)	Director CGHS	5,00,000/-	25,00,000/-
(c)	Additional Secy & Director Genl CGHS	Nil	75,00,000/-

(5) AS & DG (CGHS) may decide the request for treatment in non-empanelled hospitals / diagnostic centres subject to the reimbursement being restricted to CGHS Package Rates for the treatment or actual expenditure whichever is less ; and

(6) AS & DG (CGHS) may decide on a case to case basis the requests for reimbursement as per Package Rates where the beneficiary did not follow the prescribed procedure for treatment, the reimbursement to be restricted to CGHS Package Rates for the treatment or actual expenditures, whichever is less.

2. The revised delegations mentioned above will be subject to the condition that, it will not include any case involving relaxation of rules, irrespective of the amount involved. Further, cases where the

amount exceeds the monetary limits prescribed above will have to be referred to the Ministry of Health & family Welfare for obtaining the concurrence of Integrated Finance Division in the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

3. Reimbursement cases etc that have not been settled and are pending in the CGHS may be settled in accordance with the delegations now being conveyed.

4. The above delegations are in supersession of all earlier instructions in the matter in respect of the subjects covered by these instructions.

5. This issues with the approval of Integrated Finance Division, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, vide Dy No C-2267 dated 17-01-2011.

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CCCGPA letter No CCCGPA-CHD/2012/03 dated 10 March, 2012 addressed to Shri L C Goyal, IAS, AD &DG, CGHS, Ministry of H & FW, New Delhi, with copy to AD, CGHS, Chandigarh and CMO Wellness Center, Chandigarh.

Sub: Medical facilities for inpatient treatment and Post-operative follow-up treatment to CGHS beneficiaries in Non-CGHS areas

Kindly refer to Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (Dept of H & F W) O M No S.11011/7/99-CGHS (P) dated 27th April, 2011 under which CGHS beneficiaries residing in non-CGHS areas have been permitted to avail inpatient treatment and post-operative follow-up treatment, subject to the condition that in case of non-emergency treatment in hospitals under CS(MA) rules 1944 and ECHS recognized hospitals, these beneficiaries have to obtain prior approval of CMO IC of concerned Wellness Center, where card is registered (Para (a-ii) and (b-i)

2 The retired elderly pensioner CGHS beneficiaries residing in areas far from their 'Home' dispensary find it difficult to travel long distances to obtain such prior approval from the CMO in- charge of the Wellness Center where the card is registered. The elderly pensioners residing in various cities/towns/villages in Punjab, Haryana or Himachal Pradesh, whose cards are registered in Chandigarh, have expressed this apprehension. These CGHS beneficiaries may be permitted to undergo the treatment required, as per the local doctor's advice, and obtain ex-post facto approval later.

3 The CGHS beneficiaries are also not aware of approved / empanelled hospitals under CS (MA) Rules 1944 or ECHS. A consolidated list of all such hospitals may be circulated or website may be indicated. The concerned hospitals may also be issued instructions by the concerned ministry/ dept to entertain the CGHS beneficiaries, so that they do not charge higher rates for the treatment.

4 The CGHS beneficiaries obtaining treatment from hospitals approved under CS(MA) Rules 1944/ ECHS are required to obtain a certificate from the hospital that they have not charged more than the approved/applicable rates from the CGHS patient.(Para c). In the absence of any govt instructions to the hospitals in this regard, the hospitals may not give such a certificate. Moreover, when a CGHS patient is taken to such hospitals by the kin of the beneficiaries, the main concern is the proper treatment and the financial aspect is secondary. In any case the reimbursement claim of the CGHS beneficiary with the CGHS authorities is limited to the CGHS rates and any expenditure on the treatment over and above this is to be borne by the CGHS beneficiary/ claimant. It is requested that this requirement of obtaining a certificate from the hospital may kindly be reconsidered.

(P S BEDI) DIG (Retd) BSF
Senior Vice- Chairman

CGHS cover to Widows' children

The Govt has extended medical benefits under the CGHS to minor children of widowed or separated daughters of the Central Govt employees and pensioners w.e.f. 19-01-2012. Earlier only the widowed, separated or divorced daughter of a CGHS member was eligible for availing the benefits under the scheme. Bringing the children of widowed or separated women under the CGHS had been recommended by the 6th CPC. Under the new provisions the children concerned can avail medical benefits up to the age of 18 years, and should be residing with the CGHS member.

PENSIONARY AND ALLIED MATTERS

Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Department of Personnel and Training O M No.12011/07(i)/2011-Estt.(AL) dated 21st February, 2012

Subject: Children Education Allowance – Clarification.

The undersigned is directed to refer to Department of Personnel & Training's O.M. No.12011/03/2008—Estt.(Allowance) dated 2nd September, 2008, and subsequent clarifications issued from time to time on the subject cited above, and to state that various Ministries / Departments have been seeking clarifications on various aspects of the Children Education Allowance / Hostel Subsidy. The doubts raised by various authorities are clarified as under:

S.No.	Point of reference/doubts	Clarification
1	What constitute 'Fee' as per para 1 (c) of O.M. dated 2-9-2008 and whether fee paid for extra curricular activities to some other institute and reimbursement of school bags pen/pencil etc. can be allowed? Is there any item-wise ceiling?	"Fee' shall mean fee paid to the school in which the child is studying, directly by the parents/guardian for the items mentioned in para 1(e) of the O.M.dated 2/9/2008. Reimbursement of school bags, pens/pencils, etc., may not he allowed. There is no item-wise ceiling.
2	Whether reimbursement can be allowed in case the original receipts are misplaced and duplicate receipts are produced by the Government servant?	In case of misplacement of receipts given by the school/institution towards charges received from the parents/guardian, reimbursement may be allowed if the Government servant produces a duplicate receipt, duly authenticated by the school authorities. Receipts from private parties, other than the school, if misplaced shall not be entertained, even if a duplicate receipt is produced. Original receipts from school authorities need not be attested / countersigned stamped by the school authorities.
3	Whether the Government servant is allowed to get 50% of the total amount subject to the overall annual ceiling in the first quarter and the remaining amount in third and or fourth quarter?	Reimbursement of 50% of the entitled amount for the academic year could be allowed in the first and/or second quarter and the remaining amount could be reimbursed in the third and/or fourth quarter. However, the entire entitled amount can be reimbursed in the last quarter.
4	It is provided that whenever the DA increases by 50% the CEA will increase by 25%. What shall be the date of effect of such enhancement?	Any enhancement in the ceiling of reimbursement per annum due to increase in DA by 50%, shall be applicable on pro-rata basis from the date of increase in DA, subject to actual expenditure during the quarter.

(Vibha G.Mishra) ,Director

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Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pension (Dept of P & T), O M No.12011/07(ii)/2011-Estt.(AL) dated 21-02-2012

Subject: Children Education Allowance.

Subsequent to issue of Department of Personnel & Training's O.M. No.12011/03/2008 — Estt. (Allowance) dated 2nd September, 2008 and clarifications issued from time to time on the subject cited above, a number of references have been received on certain aspects of Children Education Allowance /

Hostel Subsidy. After due consideration of the references, in consultation with the Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure, the following modifications/alterations are carried out with effect from the date of issue of this O.M. on pro-rata basis:

i. Development Fee/Parents' Contribution charged by the school/institution in lieu of tuition fee shall be reimbursed. The Government servant will have to certify to the effect that tuition fee has not been charged by the school/institution.

ii. Fee charged directly by the school/institution for catering to the special needs of the child with disabilities, duly certified by the school authorities, shall be reimbursed in addition to items mentioned in para 1(e) of O.M. dated 2-9-2008. The school/institution shall be aided or approved by the Central/State Government/UT Administration or whose fees are approved by any of these authorities.

iii. The minimum age of 5 years, stipulated in O.M. No.12011/03/2008—Estt.(Allowance) dated 11th November, 2008, for disabled children, pursuing non-formal education or vocational training stands removed. Henceforth, there will be no minimum age for any child for claiming reimbursement of Children Education Allowance/Hostel Subsidy.

2. Cases where reimbursement has been made on the basis of earlier O.M, on the issues need not be reopened.

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Ministry of Finance, (Dept of Expenditure) O M. No. 19030/6/2010-E.IV, dated 10th February, 2012

Subject: Concession to persons re-employed in Government Service: Payment of Travelling Allowance- reg.

References have been received whether the Travelling Allowance (TA) admissible to pensioners re-appointed to Govt. service, under SR 107 of FR & SR Part II (Travelling Allowance Rules) includes TA in respect of family of the pensioner and other TA entitlements which a serving Government official is normally entitled to on transfer.

2. The matter has been considered and it has been decided that pensioners re-employed to posts, where holding of a post under the Central Government is a pre-requisite for such re-employment or where the Recruitment Rules of the post to which the pensioner is re-employed provides this as one of the qualifications, would be entitled to Travelling Allowance subject to the following:-

i) The entitlement for Travelling Allowance would be with reference to the post last held and the last pay drawn under the Government, at the time of retirement.

ii) The provisions of SR 116 of the TA Rules, as admissible to Govt. officials on transfer in public interest, would be applicable.

iii) Unless provided for in the terms & conditions of the post where the pensioner is re-employed, if 'TA on Retirement' has already been claimed by the re-employed pensioner from the office/organization from where he has retired/superannuated, no additional TA would be admissible on expiry of the term of his re-employment. If the re-employed pensioner has not claimed TA on Retirement' within six months of his retirement and he is re-employed under the Central Govt. before the expiry of six months from his date of superannuation/retirement, he can claim TA on Retirement' after expiry of the term of his re-employment, with reference to the post held at the time of retirement and pay last drawn at the time of retirement, in terms of GoI Order No. 2 below SR 147. In such an event, the 'TA on Retirement' would be reimbursed by the office/organization from where the re-employed pensioner had retired/superannuated.

3. Past cases, already settled would not be re-opened. (Subhash Chand) Dy Secy G o I

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Ministry of P P G & P (Dept of P & PW) F.No 41/30/2011-P & PW (C) dated 13 Jan,2012 addressed to All Nodal Officers of all Ministries / Depts

Sub: To fix timeline for redressal of Grievances

As you are aware that online grievances of the pensioners are being fed through our application CPENGRAMS available in the Pensioners' Portal maintained by Dept of Pensions & Pensioners' Welfare. It has, however been felt that timely action has not been taken by various ministries / Depts / organizations for redressal of grievances and same remain pending for unduly long period. There is thus need to sensitize the concerned officers dealing with these grievances in your Dept for taking timely action on the grievances of pensioners so that unnecessary delays could be avoided. The regional officers, wherever they exist also need to be sensitized in this regard accordingly.

2 In this connection your attention is invited to fix the time limit for timely redressal of grievances as per the guidelines issued by Dept of AR &PG (copy enclosed). You are therefore, requested to please take necessary action in this regard while keeping this dept informed about it.

(Sd/- Tripti Ghosh, Director)

{The complete letter with enclosure has been updated on Pensioners Portal and can be viewed}

GOI, Central Pension Accounting Office (Dept of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance)
Trkoot-2, Bhikaji Cama Place New Delhi
NOTICE FOR PENSIONERS
CPAO has set-up a Toll Free Call Center for registration and redressal of grievances of all Central Civil Pensioners (except Ministries of Railways, Post & Telecom and Defence)
Toll Free Telephone Numbers: 1800-11-77-88
(MTNL, BSNL, TATA TELE USERS ONLY)
You may call at the above numbers to register any grievance with CPAO and obtain the registration number.
Toll Free Call Center will be operational from 9.00 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. on all working days.
You may also register your Grievance on the Web-site www.cpao.nic.in or send through e-mail at cccpao@nic.in
(This ad was published in the newspapers in the First week of February, 2012)

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Ministry of P P G & P (Dept of P & PW) No 41 (23) /2011-P&PW (c) dated 19-12-2011 addressed to Pay & Accounts Office, Dept of P&PW, New Delhi with copy to 8 Pensioners Associations including General Secretary, Assn of Retired Officers of I A & AD, Chandigarh (601, Phase x, Mohali)

Sub : Web-basede 'Pensioners' Portal, a Mission Mode Project under the National e-Governance Plan (NeGP) – release of Grant-in Aid to Pensioner' Associations for implementation of the Portal

I am directed to say that a mission mode Project on Pension called the 'Pensioners' Portal', under the National e-Governance plan-(NeGP) is being implemented by this Dept during the 11th Five Year Plan (2007-12). The main object of the scheme is redressal of the pensioners' grievances besides providing them detailed information about pension and other retirement related matters. The scheme, inter-alia envisages involvement of Pensioners Associations across the country in order to facilitate implementation of this unique venture aimed at welfare of the pensioners.

2 Based on the parameters evolved by the Dept in this regard and the response received from various pensioners Association, this Dept has identified some Pensioners Associations in various states, with the approval of competent authority, to be involved in the implementation process.

3 With reference to this Depts earlier sanction Orders dated 13-03-2008, 20-11-2008, 04-10-2010 and 02-05-2011, I am directed to convey the sanction of the President of India to further release of a sum of Rs 4,16,023/- (Rupees Four Lakh sixteen thousand and twenty three only) in favour of President / Secretaryof the following associations for meeting expenditure in connection with the implementation of 'Pensioners'Portal' as per details given below;

S.No	Name of Pensioners Assn / org	Amount Due (Rs)	Deduction (Rs) on account of unspent balance lying with the Assn	Amount of Grant to be released (Rs) (3-4) during 2011-12
1 to 7	Various Pensioners Assns in other places/ cities	-	-	-
8	Association of Retired Officers of IA & AD, Chandigarh	60,000/-	17,528/-	42,472/-
	Total	4,80,000/-	63,977/-	4,16,023/-

Details of Recurring Grants for admissible activities

(i) Telephone - Rs 7200/- (@ Rs 600/- p.m.) (ii) Internet Connectivity – Rs 8,400/- (@ Rs 700/- p.m.)
(iii)Stationery – 18,000/- (@ Rs 15oo/- p.m.) (iv) Water/Electricity - Rs 24,000/- (@ Rs 2000/- p.m.)
(v) Annual Maintenance Contract -Rs 2400/- p.a.

4 In case the actual expenditure during the year is less than the estimated cost, the difference estimated cost and actual expenditure will be adjusted in the next years grant.

5 the Grantee shall furnish a utilization Certificate in the prescribed proforma on the grant received during the year 2011-12 within 6 months of the date of close of the financial year. i.e. up to 30th Sept,2012.

6 the performance-cum-achievement report may be submitted after utilization 0f this grant.the Associations are also required to prepare their Annual Work Plan for the next Financial Year.

7 The grant is further subject to the terms and conditions as indicated in the annexure.

8 The Drawing & Disbursing Officer of the Dept of Pension & pensioners Welfare is authorized to draw the amount for disbursement to the Grantee Pensioners' Associations through a bank Draft / cheque.

9 The amount is debitable to the Major Head “2052” – Secretariat General Services ; 00.090-Secretariat (Minor Head) ; “05”- Ministry of Personal, Public Grievances & Pensions “05.13-Pensioners'Portal;”05.13,31” – Grant-in-Aid-General under “ Demand No 72” for the year 2011-12 (Plan).

10 The accounts of the above Pensioners Associations shall be open to inspection by the sanctioning authority and the audit, both by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India under the provision of CAG (DPC) Act, 1971 and Internal Audit by the Principal Accounts Officer of the Dept of Pensions & Pensioners Welfare, whenever the organization is called upon to do so

11 This sanction issues under financial powers delegated to the Ministries / Depts of the Govt of India with the concurrence of Integrated finance Dvision vide Diary No 102675 O/o the SS & FA(H) dated 09-12-2011.

12 the scheme under which the Grant is being sanctioned has the approval of the Competent Authority.

13 The expenditure of Rs 4,16,023/- (Rupees Four Lakh, Sixteen thousand and twenty-three only) ha been noted in the grant-in-aid register for the year 2011-12.

Sd/- (S P Kakkr), U S,GoI

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Scheme for Payment of Pension to Government Pensioners by Authorized Banks

FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions)

Reserve Bank of India (the Bank) monitors disbursement of pension by its agency banks in respect of all Central Government Departments (except the Department of Post) and certain State Governments. It has been receiving several queries/ complaints from pensioners in regard to fixation, calculation and payment of pension including revision of pension/ Dearness Relief from time to time, transfer of pension account from one bank branch to another, etc. We have analyzed the queries/ complaints, rights and duties of pensioners and put the same in the form of answers to these Frequently Asked Questions. It is hoped that these will cover most of the queries/ doubts in the minds of pensioners.

1. Can the pensioner draw his/ her pension through a bank branch?

-yes. Even the Government employees earlier drawing their pension from a treasury or from a post office have the option to draw their pension from the authorized bank's branches.

2. Who is the pension sanctioning authority?

The Ministry/ Department /Office where the Government servant last served is the pension sanctioning authority. The pension fixation is made by such authority for the first time and thereafter the refixation of pay, if any, is done by the pension paying bank based on the instructions from the concerned Central/ State Government authority.

3. Is it necessary for the pensioner to open a separate pension account for the purpose of crediting his/ her pension in authorized bank?

The pensioner is not required to open a separate pension account. The pension can be credited to his/her existing savings/ current account maintained with the branch selected by the pensioner.

4. Can a pensioner open a Joint Account with his/ her spouse?

Yes. All pensioners of the Central Government Pensioners and those State Governments which have accepted such arrangement can open Joint Account with their spouses.

5. Whether Joint Account of the pensioner with spouse can be operated either by "Former or Survivor" or "Either or Survivor".

The Joint Account of the pensioner with spouse can be operated either as "Former or Survivor" or "Either or Survivor".

6. What is the minimum balance required to be maintained in the pension account maintained with the banks?

RBI has not stipulated any minimum balance to be maintained in pension accounts by the pensioners. Individual banks have framed their own rules in this regard. However, some banks have also permitted zero balance in the pensioners' accounts.

7. Who sends the Pension Payment Orders (PPOs) to the authorized bank branch?

The concerned pension paying authorities in the Ministries /Departments/ State Governments forward the PPOs to the bank branches wherefrom the pensioner desires to draw his/her pension.

8. When is the pension credited to the pensioner's account by the paying branch?

The disbursement of pension by the paying branch is spread over the last four working days of the month depending on the convenience of the pension paying branch except for the month of March when the pension is credited on or after the first working day of April.

9. Can a pensioner transfer his/ her pension account from one branch to another branch of the same bank or to the branch of another bank?

(a) Pensioner can transfer his/ her pension account from one branch to another branch of the same bank within the same centre or at a different centre;

(b) He/ She can transfer his/ her account from one authorized bank to another within the same centre (such transfers to be allowed only once in a year);

(c) He/ She can also transfer his/ her account from one authorized bank to another authorized bank at a different centre.

10. What is the procedure for payment of pension in the case of the transfer of PPO to another branch or bank, as the case may be?

Pension will be paid for three months on the basis of the photocopy of the pensioner's PPO at the transferee (new) branch from the date of the last payment made at the transferor (old) branch. Both the branches (old and new) are required to ensure that all the required documents are received by the transferee branch within these three months.

11. Is it necessary for the pensioner to be present at the branch of the bank along with documents for the purpose of identification before commencement of pension?

Yes. Before the commencement of pension, a pensioner has to be present at the paying branch for the purpose of identification. The paying branch shall obtain the specimen signatures or the thumb/toe impression from the pensioner.

12. What is the procedure to be followed by the bank branch if the pensioner is handicapped /incapacitated and is not in a position to be present at the paying branch?

If the pensioner is physically handicapped/incapacitated and unable to be present at the branch, the requirement of personal appearance is waived. In such cases, the bank official visits the pensioner's residence/hospital for the purpose of identification and obtaining specimen signature or thumb/toe impression.

13. Has the pensioner got right to retain half portion of the PPO for record and to get it updated from paying branch whenever there is a change in the quantum of pension due to revision in basic pension, dearness relief, etc.?

Yes. The pensioner has right to retain half portion of the PPO for record and whenever there is a revision in the basic pension/Dearness Relief (DR), etc. the paying branch has to call for the pensioner's half of the PPO and record thereon the changes according to government orders/notifications and return the same to the pensioner.

14. Whether the paying branch has to maintain a detailed record of pension payments made by it in the prescribed form?

Yes. The pension paying branch is required to maintain a detailed record of pension payments made by it from time to time in the prescribed form duly authenticated by the authorized officer.

15. Can the pension paying bank recover the excess amount credited to the pensioner's account?

Yes. The paying branch before commencement of pension obtains an undertaking from the pensioner in the prescribed form for this purpose and, therefore, can recover the excess payment made to the pensioner's account due to delay in receipt of any material information or due to any bonafide error. The bank also has the right to recover the excess amount of pension credited to the deceased pensioner's account from his/her legal heirs/nominees.

16. Is it compulsory for a pensioner to furnish a Life Certificate/Non-Employment Certificate or Employment Certificate to the bank in the month of November?

Yes. The pensioner is required to furnish a Life Certificate/Non – Employment Certificate or Employment Certificate to the bank in the month of November. However, in case a pensioner is unable to obtain a Life Certificate from an authorized bank officer on account of serious illness / incapacitation, bank official will visit his/her residence/ hospital for the purpose of recording the life certificate.

17. Can a pensioner be allowed to operate his/ her account by the holder of Power of Attorney?

The account is not allowed to be operated by a holder of Power of Attorney. However, the cheque book facility and acceptance of standing instructions for transfer of funds from the account is permissible.

18. Who is responsible for deduction of Income Tax at source from pension payment?

The pension paying bank is responsible for deduction of Income Tax from pension amount in accordance with the rates prescribed by the Income Tax authorities from time to time. While deducting such tax from the pension amount, the paying bank will also allow deductions on account of relief to the pensioner available under the Income Tax Act. The paying branch, in April each year, will also issue to the pensioner a certificate of tax deduction as per the prescribed form. If the pensioner is not liable to pay Income Tax, he should furnish to the pension paying branch, a declaration to that effect in the prescribed form (15 H).

19. Can old, sick physically handicapped pensioner who is unable to sign, open pension account or withdraw his/ her pension from the pension account?

A pensioner, who is old, sick or lost both his/her hands and, therefore, cannot sign, can put any mark or thumb/ toe impression on the form for opening of pension account. While withdrawing the pension amount he/she can put thumb/toe impression on the cheque/withdrawal form and it should be identified by two independent witnesses known to the bank one of whom should be a bank official.

20. Can a pensioner withdraw pension from his/ her account when he/she is not able to sign or put thumb/toe impression or unable to be present in the bank?

In such cases, a pensioner can put any mark or impression on the cheque/ withdrawal form and may indicate to the bank as to who would withdraw pension amount from the bank on the basis of cheque/withdrawal form. Such a person should be identified by two independent witnesses. The person who is actually drawing the money from the bank should be asked to furnish his/her specimen signature to the bank.

21. When does the family pension commence?

The family pension commences after the death of the pensioner. The family pension is payable to the person indicated in the PPO on receipt of a death certificate and application from the nominee.

22. How the payment of Dearness Relief at revised rate is to be paid to the pensioners?

Whenever any additional relief on pension/family pension is sanctioned by the Government, the same is intimated to the agency banks for issuing suitable instructions to their pension paying branches for payment of relief at the revised rates to the pensioners without any delay. The orders issued by Government Departments are also hosted on their websites and banks have been advised to watch the latest instructions on the website and act accordingly without waiting for any further orders from RBI in this regard.

23. Can pensioners get pension slips?

Yes. As decided by the Central Government (Civil, Defence & Railways), pension paying banks have been advised to issue pension slips to the pensioners in prescribed form when the pension is paid for the first time and thereafter whenever there is a change in quantum of pension due to revision in basic pension or revision in Dearness Relief.

24. Which authority the pensioner should approach for redressal of his/ her grievances?

A pensioner can initially approach the concerned Branch Manager and, thereafter, the Head Office of the concerned bank for redressal of his/her complaint. They can also approach the Banking Ombudsman of the concerned State in terms of Banking Ombudsman Scheme 2006 of the Reserve Bank of India (details available at the Bank's website www.rbi.org.in) This is applicable only in respect of complaints relating to services rendered by banks. For other issues the complainant will have to approach the respective pension paying authority.

25. Where can a pensioner get information about the changes in the pension/ Dearness Relief or any pension related issue?

The pensioner can visit the Official Website of the concerned Government Department as also Reserve Bank of India Website (www.rbi.org.in) to get the information about pension related issues.

26. Whether a pensioner is entitled for any compensation from the agency banks for delayed credit of pension/ arrears of pension?

Yes. A Pensioner is entitled for compensation for delayed credit of pension/arrears thereof at the rate of Bank Rate + 2 % and the same would be credited to the pensioner's account automatically by the bank on the same day when the bank affords delayed credit of such pension / arrears etc without any claim from the pensioner (source-www.rbi.org.in)

Railway Board letter No F (E) III/2008/PN-1/12 dated 10 Oct, 2011

Sub : Revision of pension of pre-1996 and pre-2006retired employees of scale Rs 6,500-10,500 with reference to Grade Pay of Rs 4,600

A doubt has been raised by one of the Zonal Railways as to whether the pension / family pension of pre-2006 retirees, who retired from the pre revised scale of Rs 6500-10,500 will be stepped up with reference to the Grade Pay of Rs 4,600 in the light of decision of the Dept of Expenditure vide their O M no 1/12008-IC dated 13th Nov,2009 with effect from 1-1-2006 to grant revised grade pay of Rs 4,600 in lieu of Rs 4,200 to those who were in pre-revised pay scale 0f Rs 6,500-10,500.

2 This issue has been examined in consultation with Ministry of Finance, Dept of Expenditure, and it is clarified that pre-2006retired employees who were in the pre-revised scale of Rs 6,500-10,500 are not entitled for stepping up to their pension and family pension with reference to the revised Grade Pay Rs 4,600.

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Railway board letter No F(E) III/2007/PN/5. (RBE No 150/2011 dated 20 Oct,2011)

Sub : Payment of Family Pension at enhanced rates to the widowed / divorced / unmarried daughters beyond 25 years of age- Clarification

In terms of sub-rule 4 of Rule 75 of Railways Services (Pension) Rules 1993, enhanced family pension is payable to the eligible member of the family as indicated in sub rule 6 of Rule 75 of Rules ibid. instructions were issued vide Board's letter F (E) . III /98/ PN1/ 4 (RBE No 44/2005) dated 16-3-2005 and letter No F (E) III/2007/PN1/5 dated 18-9-2007 extending the scope of family pension to divorced/widowed daughters and unmarried daughters respectively beyond 25 years of age. Para .2 of Board's letter no F (E) III/2008/PN1/13 dated 15-9-2008 provides for payment of enhanced family pension under Rule 75 (4)(i) (a) to the family of a Railway servant , who dies in service, from the date following the date of death of the Railway servant for a period of 10 years, without any upper age limit. There will be no change in the period of payment of enhanced family pension in case of death of a pensioner.

2 The matter regarding the admissibility of enhanced family pension to the eligible widowed/ divorced/ unmarried daughters of deceased Railway servants and pensioners beyond 25 years of age has been under consideration in this ministry in consultation with the Dept of Pensions & Pensioners Welfare (DoP & PW) and it is clarified that such daughters beyond 25 years of age will continue to be eligible for family pension at enhanced rates as per the Railways Services (Pension)Rules 1993. In other words the enhanced family pension payable will be for ten years in case of death of a Railway servant while in service and in case of death of a Railway Servant after retirement , family pension at enhanced rates will be payable for a period of seven years , or for a period up to the date on which the retired deceased railway servant would have attained the age of sixty-seven years had he / she survived, whichever is less.

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NEW PENSION SCHEME

New Pension Scheme (NPS) is a defined contribution scheme , its payout depends on the amount of contribution and the growth on the investment over a period of time for a individual while defined benefit schemes pay-out is defined and is based on salary and number of years in service , etc at the time of retirement of the individual.

At the time of normal retirement after attaining 60 years, the subscriber can withdraw 60% of the accumulated wealth and will be required to invest remaining 40% of the accumulated wealth to buy a life annuity from insurance company approved by Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority ((IRDA).The mandatory provision annuitization will be invested to buy life annuity as per various options available to him. The amount of annuity varies depending on the option selected by him. Registration of ASPs (Annuity Service Providers) is under process and as soon as they get registered, other details will be made available.

In old pension scheme Govt pays pension after retirement as its liability, while in NPS, govt co-contributes to employee during his service period to build up a corpus on which annuities will be paid.

This information was given by the MoS for Finance, Shri Namo Narain Meena in a written reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha.

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PUNJAB GOVT ORDERS

Govt of Punjab , Dept of Finance (Finance, Pension policy & Coordination branch) No 1-4/200-FPPC/1219 dated 19 Oct,2011'

Sub : Grant of benefit of Travel Concession to the family pensioners of Punjab Govt

I am directed to invite a reference to the instructions contained in Para 9 of the govt letter No 1-15/89-IFPIII/8078 dated 31-8-1989, as amended from time to time , on the subject cited above and to say that he Governor of Punjab is pleased to decide that the benefit of travel concession admissible to the Punjab Govt pensioners shall be admissible to to the family pensioners also subject to following conditions ;-

(a) Amount of Travel Concession payable under these orders shall be equal to one month's basic pension .

(b) In the case those family pensioners who were in receipt of family pension on or before 1-1-2010 , the block of two years shall commence from 1-1-2010 and the payment of Travel concession will be payable to them in Jan,2012. Thereafter also, the Travel Concession will be payable to them in the month of January after the completion of every block of two years.

(c) In the case of those family pensioners who start receiving family pension 1-1-2010, the block of two years shall continue to be determined in the same manner as was determined in the case of deceased pensioner.

The other conditions already notified for grant of Travel Concession to pensioners shall remain the same and shall apply mutatis mutandis in the case of family pensioners also.

The orders shall come into force with immediate effect.

Necessary amendment(s) in the rules will be made in due course.

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Govt of Punjab, Dept of Finance (finance Pension policy and Coordination Branch) no 3-23/09-3FPPC/1402 dated 22 Dec,2012

Sub : Grant of Old Aga Allowance to the Pensioners / family pensiones

I am directed to invite a reference to Govt letter No 3-23/09-3FPPC/879 dated 17-08-2009 on the subject cited above and to say that the Governor of Punjab is pleased o decide that the quantum of pension available to the old pensioners / family pensioners shall be further increased as under :-

Age of pensioner /family pensioner and additional quantum of pension / family pension

From 65 years to less than 70 years	-5% of revised basic pension / family pension
From 70 years to less than 75 years	- 10 % of revised basic pension / family pension
From 75 years to less than 80 years	- 15 % of revised basic pension / family pension
From 80 years to less than 85 years	- 25 % of revised basic pension / family pension
From 85 years to less than 90 years	- 35 % of revised basic pension / family pension
From 90 years to less than 95 years	-45 % of revised basic pension / family pension
From 95 years to less than 100 years	- 55 % of revised basic pension / family pension
100 years and more	-100% of revised basic pension / family pension

2 These orders shall come into force with effect from 1-12-2011. The enhanced rates shall be applicable prospectively and there shall be no element, whatsoever, of retrospectivity in this regard and there shall be no question of payment of arrears or of notional benefits from any previous date.
3 The other terms and conditions regarding grant of pension and other retirement benefits shall remain unchanged.
4 Necessary amendments to the rules shall be made in due course.

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ACTIVITIES OF AFFILIATED ASSOCIATIONS

Association of Retired Officers of I A & A D , Chandigarh

Following officers were elected as Office Bearers of the Executive Committee of Association of Retired Officers of I A & A D, Chandigarh in the meeting held 25 December,2011 :

(i)	President	:	Shri K S Ramotra, IA & AS (Retd), 1763, Secto 39, Chandigarh (Mob; 9872981763)
(ii)	Sr Vice President	:	Shri Didar Singh, H.No 111, Sector 38 A, Chandigarh (Mob : 9815991318)
(iii)	Vice President	:	Shri B D Ahuja, H.No 3040,Sector 46 C, Chandigarh (Tel ; 2631540)
(iv)	Gen. Secy	:	Shri G S Pathania, H.No 357, Sector 80, Mohali (Mob: 9872983093)
(v)	Jt Secy	:	Shri G S Bains, H. No 206, Phase 6, Mohali (Mob : 9417139595)
(vi)	Secy Finance	:	Shri G S Saini, H.No 3178 Sector 71, Mohali (mob; 9417178500)
(vii)	Asst Secy Finance	:	Shri J S Sandhu, H.No 249 Phase 6, mohali(Mob: 9915680630)
(viii)	Secy Mohali	:	Shri Surjit s Sinhmar, H.no 1325, Phase 5, Mohali (Tel: 2221685)
(ix)	Secy Panchkula	:	Shri I D Mittal, H. No 1077, Sector 7, Panchkula (Mob; 9417971037)
(x)	Executive Membes	:	Sarv Shri Dhian Chand Saini, Joginder Singh,M S Multani, S K Aggarwal, S L Hira, S S Malik, Smt Sudesh Bansal.
(xi)	Ex-officio members	:	Sarv Shri Daulat Ram and Y P Doshi.

Defence Accounts Pensioners'WelfareAssociation (DAPWA)

The DAPWA holds monthly meetings on first Sunday of every month. At the meeting held on 5th Feb, 2012, members observed silence in memory of the demise of two officers of the Dept. The members were also informed about the affiliation of the association with Chandigarh Senior Citizens Association. Sh IPS Bajaj, informed about the difficulty faced in getting medicines / injections from CGHS.

In the meeting held on 4th March, 2012, Shri D C Gupta, President, expressed concern on various matters including delay in issue of Smart cards by PCDA (WC) Chandigarh for extending CSD facilities to DAD pensioners. The non credit of pension on the last of the month by Central Bank of India and levying unauthorized charges by empanelled hospitals was also discussed. Name of Shri Darshan Lal was approved as General Secretary in the absence of Shri M C Arya.

The demand by the CCCGPA for Rs.5000/- as initial payment for co-opting in filing a Caveat in CAT decision dated 1.11.2011, was not approved by the House. (On *this issue, Secy Gen CCCGPA had discussion with Sh D C Gupta, President, who indicated a review of this issue in their next meeting scheduled for 01 April,2012*)

A committee with members of S/Sh. D.S. Dheer, M.K. Malik, N.C. Goel, Jaspal Singh & Manchanda, was formed to chalk out the program for the celebrations on suitable scale.

(Shri S R Bhardwaj,IDAS (Retd) has since been nominated to the CGHS Advisory Committee in place of Shri M C Arya)

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MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

Carrying of Original ID Proof is Compulsory during Train Journey in All AC Classes

From 15th February 2012, anyone of the passengers/the passenger booked on the ticket issued from computerized Passenger Reservation System (PRS counters) and Internet (i-ticket) undertaking journey in AC-3 tier, AC-2 tier, 1st AC, AC Chair Car and Executive Classes will have to carry one of the nine prescribed proofs of identity (in original) during the journey. The passengers of these AC classes would be required to produce the Identity Card in original as and when required failing which all the passengers booked on that ticket will be treated as without ticket and charged accordingly. However, the Identity Card (in original or its photocopy) will not be required at the time of purchase reserved AC tickets from PRS counters or i-ticket. These instructions are valid for all categories of trains, with the above mentioned classes of travel. The Ministry of Railways has taken this decision to prevent misuse of Reserved Train Tickets and reduce cases of travelling on transferred tickets, Ministry of Railways has decided that with effect

In case of passengers who are automatically upgraded by the system from sleeper Class to Air-conditioned class and in case of passengers who are upgraded by on-board ticket checking staff on realization of difference of fare, the condition of carrying proof of identity during the journey will not be applicable.

These fresh instructions are in addition to the existing instructions under which the passengers with Tatkal tickets and e-tickets are already required to carry original proof of identity during the course of Railway journey. In case of Tatkal tickets, self attested photocopy of the Identity Card is required at the time of purchase from the PRS counters or Identity Card details (Number etc.) are to be entered at the time of purchase from internet message on this count will be indicated on the ticket issued in the above said classes through computerized PRS/I-ticket. Center for Railway Information System (CRIS), an organization under Ministry of Railways, has been asked to make necessary provisions in the software.

The list of valid proofs of identity is as under:-

Voter Photo Identity Card issued by Election Commission of India. Passport, PAN Card issued by Income Tax Department. Driving License issued by RTO. Photo Identity card having serial number issued by Central/State Government. Student Identity Card with Photograph issued by recognized School/College for their Students.

Nationalized Bank Passbook with Photograph. Credit Cards issued by Banks with laminated photograph.

Unique Identification Card "Aadhaar".

(The scope of the term "Photo Identity Card having serial number issued by Central/State Government" permissible under the scheme is very wide and it covers a large number of photo identity cards, some of which are as under :

Pension Pay Orders (PPO), Ration Card with photographs, Senior citizen cards. Below Poverty Line (BPL) cards.ESI Cards (with photograph) issued for taking treatment in ESI dispensaries. CGHS Cards (with photograph) issued to individual family members of Central Government employees.)

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National Senior Citizens council to be formed - with five representatives of Pensioners' Associations

Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, on Feb.1. 2012 accorded his approval to the constitution of National Senior Citizens council for Senior Citizens which will include five representatives of Pensioners' Association

The council will advise the Central and State Govts on issues of Senior Citizens and enhancement of their quality of life with special reference to policies, programmes and legislative matters. It will also advise on promotion of physical and financial security, health and independent and productive living, and awareness generation and community mobilization.

The Council would be chaired by the Minister of Social Justice & Empowerment

Other members of the Council include the Minister of State, Social Justice & Empowerment, the oldest Members of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, representatives of five state governments (one each from the

North, South, East, West & North Eastern Regions) and one Union Territory by rotation, five representatives each from Senior Citizens' Associations, Pensioners' Association, NGOs working for Senior Citizens and Experts, and five senior citizens who have distinguished themselves in various fields

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Parity between Defence officers & civil officers

(Extract of Fifth Pay Commission report -page 71 to 75)

Introduction

2.3.1 The first two Pay Commissions did not consider the payscales, allowances and other service conditions of Defence Forces personnel. At that time, the structure of emoluments of the Defence Forces personnel was looked into by the departmental committees which included the representatives of the three services.

Post-war Pay Committee

2.3.2 After the First Pay Commission, a Post War Pay Committee was constituted for the Defence Forces personnel. Theirrecommendations were implemented from 1/7/1947. TheCommittee simplified the pay structure of the Defence Forces personnel considerably and abolished a number of allowances which had either relevance only to war conditions or which could be merged with the pay. The Committee established a broad relativity of officers of Defence Forces with the officers of Class-I central services and the Indian Police Service (IPS). Insofar as Personnel Below Officer Ranks (PBORs) were concerned, the fully trained infantry solider with 3 years service was equated with a semi-skilled worker. Pension related issues of the Defence Forces were considered subsequently by the Defence Forces Pension Revision Committee constituted in 1949 which gave its report in 1950.

Raghuramaiya Committee

2.3.3 Subsequent to the report of the Second Pay Commission, the consequential changes for Defence Forces personnel were effected as per the recommendations made by the Raghuramaiah Committee that gave its report in 1960. The revisions made by this Committee were consequential in nature and broadly followed the revisions made by the Second CPC on the civil side. The Committee did not modify any of the principles followed by the Post War Pay Committee. The Raghuramaiya Committee specifically mentioned that the accepted parallel between defence service officers and Class-I services of the Central Government, particularly the Indian Police Service should be continued.

Subsequent developments

2.3.4 Subsequently, the parity of officers' pay scale in Defence Forces vis-à-vis that of the IPS got cemented further and modifications in the IPS scales became a trigger for corresponding changes in the analogous grade in the Defence Forces

2.3.5 The Third Pay Commission was the first Commission whose terms of reference included examination of the structure of emoluments, the retirement benefits and terms and conditions of the Defence Forces personnel. The Commission noted that the relativity of the officers in Defence Forces vis-à-vis IPS was only a working method of devising scales of pay for the service officers which did not mean that the functional role of the two services were similar. The Commission, however, qualified this statement by mentioning that the job profile of IPS officers was the closest civilian analogue vis-à-vis infantry officers and that a working relationship did exist between the two organizations. The Commission also specifically noted that the pay structure of the Indian Administrative Service with its long pay scales was particularly unsuitable for service officers.

Disturbance Allowance and the edge in Defence Forces pay scales

2.3.6 The Defence Forces had demanded a higher rate of Special Disturbance Allowance from the Third Pay Commission. TheCommission, however, noted that the Disturbance Allowance was granted in 1950 as a temporary measure to improve the earnings of service officers without interfering with the pay scales introduced as per the recommendations of the Post War Pay Committee which had brought down the pay scales of many Indian Commissioned Officers (ICOs). At such time, the grant of Disturbance Allowance offered some relief to them. The Third Pay Commission noted that the extent of turbulence was off-set by the special facilities given to Defence Forces personnel and no justification existed for continuance of the Special Disturbance Allowance as a separate entity. The Commission, however, did not recommend total abolition of this allowance as it had existed for a long time and instead merged this allowance with the pay scales of Defence Forces officers. Hence, the Third CPC pay scales of Defence Forces officers also contained an element of Special Disturbance Allowance which had hitherto been given as a separate allowance. On account of this fact, post-Third CPC, the pay scales of Defence Forces officers had a slight edge vis-à-vis the analogous posts in the civilian side.

Fourth CPC

2.3.7 The Fourth CPC, while devising the revised pay scales of Defence Forces officers took into note the proposal seeking running pay bands put forth by the Defence Forces. The Defence Forces had desired a running pay band so as to ensure a smooth and improved career progression which otherwise was not possible especially as any large scale cadre review in the Defence Forces would have created unacceptable aberrations in their hierarchical structure .The Fourth Pay Commission, accordingly, recommended an integrated pay scale for all officers up to the rank of Brigadier and equivalent in three services and separately gave a rank pay ranging from Rs.200 to Rs.1200 p.m. for posts from Captain/equivalent to Brigadier/equivalent. During such time, the Defence Forces had desired inclusion of the officers in the rank of Major General also in the proposed integrated pay scale. This was, however, not found acceptable by the Fourth CPC who, therefore, placed Major Generals in the pay scale of Rs.5900-6700 being the senior administrative pay-scale (SAG) for civilians.

2.3.8 The Fifth CPC took note of the fact that the Special Disturbance Allowance had been incorporated by the Third CPC in the pay scales of Defence Forces officers. The Commission, accordingly, recommended a similar edge in the starting pay of Lieutenant (the rank of 2ndLieutenant having been recommended to be abolished by the Commission) who was, therefore, given the starting pay of Rs.8250 as against Rs.8000 recommended for a civilian Group A officer. Before the Fifth CPC, the Defence Forces had proposed two running pay bands for Defence Forces officers –(i) till the post of Colonel; and (ii) from Brigadier to Lt. General. The Fifth CPC, however, concluded that a separate dispensation for Defence Forces in the form of running pay bands would have repercussions on civilian employees and that the better method would be to provide explicit compensation in regular pay scales. The Commission, accordingly, recommended abolition of integrated pay scales by regular pay scales with progression in pay being provided by the mechanism of ACP Scheme. The Fifth CPC, however, retained the concept of rank pay for officers till the post of Brigadier. The pay scale of Major General/equivalent was recommended as Rs.18400-22400 on par with SAG scale of civilians.

Analysis

2.3.10 The following facts emerge from the history of the rank structure of officers in the Defence Forces:-

(i) A broad parity has always existed between the pay scales of Defence Forces officers and civilian group 'A' services in general and with IPS in particular

(ii) Special Disturbance Allowance was given to the Defence Forces officers in 1950 as a temporary measure to improve their earnings without interfering with the pay scales introduced as per the recommendations of the Post War Pay Committee which had brought down the pay scales of many Indian Commissioned Officers (ICOs).

(iii) An edge was provided by the Third CPC in the Defence Forces officer's pay scales because the Commission had converted the then existing Special Disturbance Allowance into an edge in starting pay vis-à-vis the civilian group A officers .

(iv) The Fourth CPC had continued this edge in devising the running pay band for Defence Forces officers up to the rank of Brigadier and had revised the integrated pay scale taking in account the time taken for promotion to different pay scales. The element of rank pay was carved out of the pay scales so revised after giving the edge vis-à-vis civilian group A officers .

(v) The Fifth CPC maintained this edge even though it reverted from running pay bands to individual pay scales for various officers' ranks in the Defence Forces .(vi) The edge in the Defence Forces pay scales for their officers is on account of the Special Disturbance Allowance .Otherwise, the established relativity of the posts of Major General and Brigadier is with SAG and DIG pay scales of civilians/police forces respectively

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BSNL- Rakshak Plan for Central Paramilitary Groups like CRPF, ITBP, BSF, BRO etc

Rakshak plans for Central Paramilitary Groups like CRPF, ITBP,BSF, BRO etc- all Armed Forces like Indian Army, Indian Navy, Indian Air Force, and Railways Protection Force . A new special 2G/3G postpaid plan with the name “ Rakshak” has been introduced with the following terms and conditions ;

S.No	Particulars	Charges
1	Activation Charges for both numbers	Free
2	Security deposit for local & STD facilities	Nil
3	Total Fixed Monthly charges for both numbers	299/-
4	Freebies per month for each numbers a) Local calls (on set) b) STD calls (On set) c) Local/ national SMS	As per Plan 99 75 min 75 Min 100 Min
5	Local / STD calls between these two numbers shall be free to the extent of 30 min/day(limitcombined for both numbers). Beyond this the call rates applicable between these two numbers (Rs/min)	0.20
6	Local / STD call to any network (Rs/Min)	0.49
7	O/G call(Local /STD) while national roaming (Rs/Min)	0.49
8	I/C call for main number while roaming in BSNL network	Free
9	Local / national SMS charges (rs/min)	0.49
10	Local / national SMS charges while national roaming (Rs/Min)	0.49
11	All other charfes not covered above	Plann-99

Under this Plan two SMSs (main & home SMS) will be issued /activated from the same CSC of the Circle and bill payments can be made in the home circle. In case of specific request from the customer for USIM Rs 59 will b charged.
FMC of Rs 299is the total fixed monthly charges for two post paid connections. All tariffs applicable for main number except incoming calls while roaming will be the same for Home number.
Above personnel using BSNL connection and Port-in customers will be allowed to activate the special plan subject to verification of credentials.
The credentials of the above personnel is to be verified before activating the plan by taking a photocopy of the identity card issued duly attested by his controlling officer. A self certificate indicating that no other connection is activated in his name under this special plan any where in India is also to be taken.
Special Post paid Plan for Officers of all Paramilitary Forces:

S.No	Particulars	Charges
1	Activation Charges	Free
2	Security Deposit for local & STD facilities	Nil
3	Fixed Monthly Charges	Rs 425/-
4	Freebies Per Month a) Local calls (On set) b) STD calls (On-set) c) I/C call while national roaming d) O/G call while roaming e) Local / National SMS f) GPRS usage while in Home LSA	 Unlimited 1000 Min 300 Min 200 min 100 Min 1 GB
5	All other charges, terms and conditions	As per plan-725

Note;
i) The credentials of the Paramilitary Force Officer will have to be verified before activating the plan by taking a self attested photocopy of his Identity card. A self certificate indicating that no other connection is active in his name under this special Paramilitary Plan any where in India will also be taken.
ii) Paramilitary Force officers using BSNL connection and Port-in customers will be allowed to migrate to this plan free of charge.
iii) Service Tax as applicable will be charged extra.
The above plan may be allowed for activation through BSNL, CSC only. (Source : BSNL Portal)

Min of P, P G & P (Dept of P and T) O M No. I-11011/1/2009-CRD dated 14 Dec, 2010

Subject: Consolidated guidelines on cadre review of Central Group 'A' Services.

The undersigned is directed to say that provisions governing the process of cadre review of Central Group 'A' Services are contained in various Office Memoranda issued by the Department of Personnel and Training and the Department of Expenditure. As a part of this Department's endeavour to keep the personnel policies relevant to current and future needs, these provisions have been reviewed in consultation with various stakeholders and it has been decided to issue a consolidated and revised set of guidelines on cadre review. The revised guidelines are given below. Besides, the broad issues concerning cadre review have been elaborated in the revised Monograph on Cadre Review of Central Group 'A' Services enclosed herewith. The list of existing Central Group 'A' Services is at Annex-I.

2. **Formulation of Proposal**

(i) The proposal would be formulated, to the extent possible, in consultation with the representatives of service association (s). While drafting the proposal, all issues like expected changes in the Organization's activities, automation, amendment in the business processes, recruitment planning, plugging the skill gaps, cadre structure, career progression, financial implications etc. must be analyzed and made part of the proposal. These issues and their impact on cadre structure have been discussed in Section-5 and Section-6 of the Monograph.

(ii) Full functional justification for each creation of post/upgradation should be given. A job evaluation exercise may be undertaken for each category of posts so as to ensure that different grades are assigned corresponding level of functions and responsibilities.

(iii) It may be ensured that the cadre review would not have an adverse impact on the feeder grade.

3. Reference to Department of Personnel and Training/Department of Expenditure

(i) The proposal should be referred to Department of Personnel and Training with the approval of Integrated Finance Division and the Minister in charge.

(ii) The Cadre Controlling Authority would also give a certificate that there is no Court Case pending having a bearing on the cadre review.

(iii) The name (s) of contact officer (s) for further/additional information may be clearly indicated in the reference.

(iv) The proposal should be examined vis-à-vis the checklist given in Section-6 of the Monograph to ensure that the proposal is complete in all respect.

4. Financial Implications

(i) The proposal having additional financial implications would be entertained strictly on functional considerations like consistent increase in workload, horizontal expansion in activities etc.

(ii) While calculating the additional expenditure, the impact of Non-Functional Upgradation may be taken into account. The calculation sheet must be enclosed with the proposal.

5. Procedure for cadre review

(i) Every cadre should be reviewed once every five years. The review should be first carried out by the Cadre Controlling Authority, preferably in consultation with the representatives of the service/cadre in question. However, if it is convinced after such a review that no change in the cadre structure is required, the decision should be conveyed to DoPT with the approval of Minister in charge.

(ii) The cadre review proposal would be prepared by the Cadre Controlling Authority in the form of a Note for Committee of Secretaries. DoPT would obtain the approval of Secretary (P) and then refer it to Department of Expenditure for approval of Secretary (Expenditure).

(iii) The Note would then be placed before the Cadre Review Committee by DoPT.

(iv) Based on the recommendation of Cadre Review Committee, the proposal would be submitted for MOS (PP)'s approval. It would then be referred to the Department of Expenditure for Finance Minister's approval.

(v) The Cadre Controlling Authority would then take approval of Cabinet. The Note for Cabinet should ideally be prepared within a month of the Cadre Review Committee's approval.

6. Composition of Cadre Review Committee

The Cadre Review Committee would comprise the following functionaries:
(i) Cabinet Secretary Chairman (ii) Secretary of the Ministry controlling the cadre Member
(iii) Secretary, Department of Personnel and Training Member iv) Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Dept of Expenditure Member (v) The senior most member of the service/cadre concerned Member

7. Restriction on direct recruitment

There is a restriction on direct recruitment to the extent that it should not exceed 3% of the total cadre strength. The authority to relax the condition rests with DoPT. It has now been decided to do away with this restriction. The Cadre Controlling Authorities are, however, advised not to resort to any bulk recruitment as it would create a bulge in the structure leading to stagnation at later stage. This may be kept in view while projecting recruitment planning.

Sd/- (Pratima Tyagi) Deputy Secretary to the Government of India

Annex-I

List of Central Group 'A' Services (Category wise)

Non-Technical Services

1. Indian Foreign Service
2. Indian Customs & Central Excise
3. Indian Revenue Service (IT)
4. Indian Audit & Accounts Service
5. Indian Railways Traffic Service
6. Indian Railways Accounts Service
7. Indian Railways Personnel Service
8. Indian Civil Accounts Service
9. Indian Defence Accounts Service
10. Indian P&T Accounts and Finance Service
11. Indian Postal Service
12. Indian Defence Estates Service
13. Indian Information Service
14. Indian Trade Service
15. Railway Protection Force

Technical Services

16. Indian Railways Service of Engineers
17. Indian Railways Service of Signal & Telecom Engineers
18. Indian Railways Service of Mechanical Engineers
19. Indian Railways Service of Electrical. Engineers
20. Indian Telecommunication Service
21. Indian Ordnance Factories Service
22. Indian Railways Stores Service
23. Central Engineering Service (Roads)
24. Central Water Engineering Service
25. Indian Defence Service of Engineers
26. Central Engineering Service (CPWD)
27. Central Electrical. & Mechanical. Engineering Service. (CPWD)
28. Border Roads Engineering Service
29. Central Power Engineering Service
30. Indian Supply Service
31. Indian Inspection Service
32. Indian Naval Armament Service
33. Indian Broadcasting (Engineers) Service
34. P&T Building Works Service
35. Central Architect Service (CPWD)

Health Services

36. Central Health Services
37. Indian Ordnance Factory Health Service
38. Central Reserve Police Health Service
39. BSF Health Service
40. ITBP Health Service
41. Indian Railways Medical Service

Other Services

42. India Legal Service
43. Geological Survey of India
44. Indian Meteorological Service
45. Indian Economic Service
46. Indian Statistical Service
47. Indian Cost Accounts Service
48. Indian Company Law Service
49. Defence Research and Dev. Service
50. Indo Tibetan Border Police
51. Central Industrial Security Force
52. Border Security Force
53. Central Reserve Police Force
54. Defence Aeronautical. Quality Assurance Service
55. Survey of Indian Gr. 'A' Service
56. Defence Quality Assurance Service
57. Indian Broadcasting (Programme) Service
58. Central Labour Service.

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Min of P, P G & P (Dept of P & T) O M No. AB.14017/64/2008-Estt.(RR) dated 24-04- 2009

Subject:- Non-Functional up gradation for Officers of Organised Group 'A' Services in PB-3 and PB-4

Consequent upon the acceptance of the recommendations of the Sixth Central Pay Commission, the following orders are issued:-

Whenever an Indian Administrative Services Officer of the State of Joint Cadre is posted at the Centre to a particular grade carrying a specific grade pay in Pay band 3 or Pay Band 4, the officers belong to batches of Organised Group A Services that are senior by two years or more and have not so far been promoted to that particular grade would be granted the same grade on nonfunctional basis from the date of posting of the Indian Administrative Service Officers in that particular grade at the Centre.

Grant of higher scale would be governed by the terms and conditions given in Annex-I.

Appropriate amendments in the Service Rules may also be carried out.

Establishment Division of this Department will issue orders from time to time, in consultation with the Establishment Officer, intimating the batch of the officers belonging to the Indian Administrative Service who have been posted at the Centre in the various grades of PB-3and PB-4 as well as the date of posting of the first officers belonging to the batch.

2. Grant of higher scale (i.e. pay band and/or grade -pay) under these instructions would be w.e.f. 1.1.2006, wherever due and admissible.

(SMITA KUMAR)
Director(E-I)

TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR GRANT OF HIGHER PAY SCALE ON NON-FUNCTIONAL BASIS TO OFFICERS OF ORGANISED GR.' A' SERVICES

The non functional up-gradation granted under these orders will be based on empanelment and posting of particular batch of IAS officer in the Centre. Such up-gradation would not be linked to the vacancies in the grade.

3. All the prescribed eligibility criteria and promotional norms including 'benchmark' for up-gradation to a particular grade pay would have to be met at the time of screening for grant of higher pay-scale under these orders.

4. A screening committee would be formed by the Ministry for implementation of these orders. There would be three members in committee so formed and they would at-least be one level above the grade for which up-gradation is being considered. Secretary of the Ministry concerned would chair the committee.

5. All instructions concerning grant of non-functional up gradation presently applicable in the case of grant of NFSG to officers of Group 'A' Services would apply in the event of penalty, disciplinary proceedings, suspension etc.

6. Orders will be issued with the approval of the competent authority. Grant of higher pay scale on the non-functional basis would be from the date of posting of the first officer belonging to the particular batch of IAS officer at the centre. In case of any delay in the issue of orders, financial benefits under these orders will be given from the due date.

7. (i) Pay fixation under on grant of non-functional up gradation under these orders will be done as per the provisions of CCS (RP) Rules ,2008 i.e. the officers will be granted one increment at the rate of 3% of basic pay and the difference of grade pay will be added to their basic pay.

(ii) As far as similarly placed officers of organized Gr. A Services, ho are posted under the Central Staffing Scheme are concerned , they will be granted one additional increment on account of the non-functional up-gradation, but their grade pay will remain unchanged on the ground that they are holding a particular post with a specific grade pay under the Central Staffing Scheme. In such cases the officers granted nonfunctional up-gradation may continue to draw CDTA if admissible.

8. As and when the normal vacancies in the grade arise, the officer will be considered for regular promotions as per the normal DPC guidelines, based on the provisions of the recruitment rules. UPSC will be consulted wherever the rules provide for the same. However at the time of promotion, the pay in

the grade will not be fixed again for officers who have been granted up-gradation under these orders.

9. Officers on deputation / study leave or any other duly sanctioned leave would also be considered and granted higher pay-scale on non-functional basis according to the prescribed procedure.

10. Non-functional up-gradation to the next higher grade pay granted under he scheme is a fall back option only, to be applied in cases where officers of a particular Service have not been granted promotion to a particular grade in normal course according to the due procedure.

11. ILLUSTRATION:- If officers of 1987 batch of IAS are empanelled as Joint Secretary in the grade pay of Rs. 10,000/in PB-4 and an officer of the batch gets posted in the Centre (under Central Staffing Scheme) on 15th January 2008, all the officers of the 1985 batch of organized Gr. A Central Services who have not been promoted to the Joint Secretary or equivalent grade and who are eligible for the same on 11112007 for the panel year 2007-08, would be appointed to the same grade on non-functional basis under these instructions w.e.f. 15/112008. Same would be the case in the event of posting of an officer of particular batch as Deputy Secretary/ Director under Central Staffing scheme

These orders were issued by the govt to appease the Group 'A' Service officers in the matter of their up gradation due to shortage of posts in the higher Grade with an edge / advantage of 2 years to Central Services like IAS and IPS , IFS over Group 'A' Service officers, who have been granted ' Non Functional Selection Grade (NFSG). However, the Army and allied defence services as also some other Group 'A' services have been left out. Besides, Defence Services, some Paramilitary Forces Group 'A' officers have been discriminated, which need to be addressed.

(A related report on this issue appeared in The Tribune of 29 March,2012)

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Legal Fund

Some of the major Pensioners organizations, including CCCGPA, Chandigarh along with Railways and Bharat Pensioners Samaj have resolved to build up a fund to file plea for impleadment in cases of injustice faced by elderly retirees as well as for any other problems experienced by the pensioners , for which, CCCGPA is seeking cooperation from all pensioners and Pensioners Associations. The 'LEGAL FUND' so purported will be used for fighting cases to seek justice to the pensioners for which contributions and donations have been sought. The individual pensioners as well as Association are requested to donate liberally as per details published in this issue of the magazine.

An Appeal to Pensioners

Join the struggle against continuous injustice. Join CCCGPA. Contribute liberally to Legal Fund. The contribution / donation to Legal Fund may be sent to Finance Secretary CCCGPA,
Shri R. P. Sharma *(# HM – 250 Phase 2, Mohali – 160055 Mob No. 09356826428)* by MO, DD or “At Par Cheque” in favour of “COORDINATION COMMITTEE OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENT PENSIONERS ASSOCIATIONS,CHANDIGARH”

A Billboard inside Tata Steel Plant in Jamshedpur reads

One who knows not but knows not that he knows not, is a fool,	**leave him**
One who knows not and knows that he knows not, is simple.	**teach hi**
One who knows but knows not that he knows, is asleep,	**awake him**
One who knows and knows that he knows. is wise,	**follow him.**

FROM-IV

(Rule 8 of Registration of Newspaper (Central) Rules 1956)

Statement of Ownership and other particulars

PENSIONERS CO0ORDINATOR

1. Place of Publication - CHANDIGARH
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3. Printers Name - Saranjit Singh
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   Address -1046, Sector 18C Chandigarh
5. Editors Name -PS Bedi
   Nationality -Indian
   Address - 2186 Sector 35C, Chandigarh
6. Name & address of Owners of newspaper
   Co-ordination Committee of Central Govt. Pensioners Associations, Chandigarh
   (Regd. No. 2234 of 1993 dated 20 December, 1993)

I, Rajpal Sharma, do hereby declare that the Particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Sd/-

31 March, 2012 (Rajpal Sharma)

INCOME TAX RATES FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2012-13

Basic Slabs for all individuals below 60 years

Earlier for men	Earlier for women	New for all	Tax Rate
Up to 1.80 Lakh	Up to 1,90 Lakh	Up to 2.00 Lakh	Nil
Rs 1.80 to 5.00 Lakh	Rs 1.90 to 5.00 lakh	Rs 2.00 to 5.00 Lakh	10 %
Rs 5.00 to 08.00 Lakh	Rs 5.00 to 08.00 Lakh	Rs5.00to10.00 Lakh	20 %
Above 8.00Lakh	Above 8.00 Lakh	Above 10.00 lakh	30%

Slabs for Senior Citizens (60 years to 80 years)

Earlier	New	Tax Rate
Up to 2.50 Lakh	Up to 2.50 lakh	Nil
Rs 2.50 to 5.00 Lakh	Rs 2.50 to 5.00 lakh	10 %
Rs5.00 to 8.oo Lakh	Rs 5.00 to 10.00 lakh	20 %
Above 8.00 Lakh	Above 10.00 lakh	30 %

Slabs for Very Senior Citizens (Above 80 years)

Earlier	New	Tax Rate
Up to 5.00 Lakh	Up to 5.00 Lakh	Nil
Rs 5.00 to 8.00 lakh	Rs 5.00 to 10.00 Lakh	20 %
Above 8.00 Lakh	Above 10.00 Lakh	30 %

Education Cess of 3 % on Income Tax remains as hitherto.

CCCGPA APPEALS TO ALL AFFILIATED ASSOCIATIONS & PENSIONER / FAMILY PENSIONERS

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Shri R P Sharma, Secretary Finance,CCCGPA, H.No HM-250 (Near J & K Bank) Phase 2, MOHALI-160055 (Mob : 93568-26428) - E mail : rpsharma250@gmail.com

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The subscribers to the magazine 'PENSIONERS CO-ORDINATOR' are requested to remit their subscription in time. The subscription can be remitted by CASH / M O or by crossed 'Local' cheque / multi-city cheque, or D D in favour of 'CCCGPA, CHANDIGARH', and sent to the Editor, Shri P S Bedi, DIG (Retd) BSF, 2186, Sector 35 C, Chandigarh-160022.

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Total of 12 months	2218	2233	2252	2269	2286	**2298**	2308	2322
Twelve Monthly Average	184.83	186.08	187.67	189.08	190.50	**191.5**	192.3	193.50
% increase over 115.76 for DA	59.67	60.75	62.12	63.34	64.56	**65.43**	66.13	67.16

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