RAILWAY SENIOR CITIZENS WELFARE SOCIETY

CHANDIGARH

(Estd. 1991, Regd. No. 1881 – Under Registration of Societies Act)
Website http://www.rscws.com

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No. RSCWS / CHD / Memo - FMA

Shri Prithvi Raj Chavan, Hon'ble Minister of State, Government of India, Ministry of Personnel, PG & Pension, North Block, New Delhi.

Dear Sir.

Subject: Grant of Fixed Medical Allowance (FMA) to the Central Government Pensioners

- Appeal for increase of FMA to at least Rs 1200 p.m. – in view of high cost of Medicines.

Reference: DOPP & PW Office Memorandum No. 4/252008-P&PW(D) Dated 26-5-2010

- 1. We draw the kind attention of the Government towards the serious hardship suffered by the Central Government Pensioners on account of meager amount of Rs.300 p.m. paid to them vide OM cited above as Fixed Medical Allowance (FMA). The amount is so less and in fact negligible that it does not meet with even a fraction of day-to-day Medical expenses for treatment of old-age problems not requiring hospitalization. It thus defeats the very purpose for which the said Allowance is purported to be paid as defined in the OM under reference.
- 2. Keeping in view the 10 to 20 times increase in the cost of Medicines over the last few years, the belated nominal increase of only Rs.200 in FMA (from Rs.100 to Rs.300 p.m.) seems to be a cruel joke with the Senior Citizens who have given valuable years of their lives to the service of the Nation.
- 3. EMPLOYEES' PROVIDENT FUND ORGANISATION under the MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, has enhanced the <u>Fixed Medical Allowance (FMA) from Rs.600 p.m.</u> (Rupees Six hundred only) to Rs. 1200 p.m.(Rupees one thousand two hundred only) for outdoor treatment, vide its *Circular No.* HRM-V/12(1)2003/FMA/Vol-II dated: 11.1.2010 (Copy of the Office Circular is attached.
- **4. a) It was recently agreed to by you 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) Sir, we very earnestly pray to you and the Government of India that the resources may please 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.
- 5. It is, therefore, requested that the Fixed Medical Allowance (FMA) to Pensioners and Family Pensioners may please be enhanced to Rs.1200 p.m. (at par with EPFO) to mitigate the hardship of the Pensioners and their dependents.

Yours faithfully,

(Harchandan Singh), Secretary General, RSCWS

Copy for information & kind consideration to:

- 1. Secretary, Ministry of Personnel, P.G., Pension & Pensioners' Welfare, North Block, New Delhi.
- 2. Chairman, Railway Board, Rail Bhavan, New Delhi
- 3. Member Staff, Railway Board, Rail Bhavan, New Delhi
- 4. Director, Department of Pension & Pensioners Welfare, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pension, 3rd Floor, Lok Nayak Bhawan, Khan Market, New Delhi.

EMPLOYEES' PROVIDENT FUND ORGANISATION MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HEAD QUARTERS

Bhavishya Nidhi Bhawan, 14, Bhikaiji Cama Place, New Delhi 110066 www.epfindiamov.in: www.erpfindia.nicin

File No. HRM-V/12(1)2003/FMA/Vol-II

To All Addl. Central-Provident Fund Commissioner (Zones) Director NATRSS All Regional Provident Fund Commissioners in-charge of the Regions All Officers in-charge(Sub Regional Office) All Officers in-Charge(ZTIs) RPFC(ASD) Head Office

Subject:- Enhancement in the rate of Fixed Medical Allowance, payable to the serving as well as retired employees of the EPFO for outdoor medical treatment - regarding.

Sir,

I am directed to convey the approval of the 67 th Executive Committee, held on 4.12.2009; CBT EPF for enhancement of the Fixed Medical Allowance _(FMA) from Rs.600/.p.m. (Rupees Six hundred only) to Rs. 1200/- p.m.(Rupees one thousand two hundred only). This enhancement will be effective from 1 st January, 2009 and subject to the following conditions.

- (i) The enhancement of fixed medical allowance will be available to_serving employees and pensioners (including family pensioners) of the Employees Provident Fund Organization. The serving employees of the Organization who are in the Head Office at New Delhi and Regional / Sub Regional Office at Delhi and at stations which are covered by the Central Government Health Scheme will not be eligible for Fixed Medical Allowance. As soon as any employees is covered by Central Government Health Scheme, the fixed medical allowance admissible to him/ her shall be stopped.
- (ii) If two or more members of family-are working in the EPF Organisation, only one of them will be eligible for the facility of fixed medical Allowance.
- (iii) In the case of an employee whose wife / husband spouse is an employee of a Government or any other organization (including private Firm /Office) he/she will be required to give an undertaking that his /her spouse is not availing of medical facilities in cash , if any granted by their respective employees.
- (iv) The Fixed Medical Allowance will be in lieu of the medical facility available for outdoor treatment under-the Central Services (Medical Attendance) Rules, 1944 as adopted by the EPF Organisation for its own employees and pensioners

Your faithfully (Sd/-V.P. Ramaiah) Additional Central Provident Fund Commissioner (HR) 11-1-10

Dated: 11 JAN 2010