

**PENSIONERS'**

# **RAIL SAMPARK**

QUARTERLY BULLETIN OF THE  
**RAILWAY SENIOR CITIZENS WELFARE SOCIETY (Regd.)**  
CHANDIGARH – PANCHKULA & MOHALI

(Estd. 1991, Regd. No. 1881 - under Societies Registration Act) Website: [www.rscws.com](http://www.rscws.com)

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CHANDIGARH April - June, 2009

FOR MEMBERS ONLY

## **RSCWS congratulates Dr. Manmohan Singh for taking over again as PM - Seeks intervention for removing disparity in revised Pension**

RSCWS, while drawing the attention of the Prime Minister Shri Manmohan Singh towards the injustice done with the Pre-2006 Pensioners vide the DOPs clarificatory orders dated 3.10.2008, have also heartily congratulated him for once again taking over as the Prime Minister of India and appreciated his calibre, ability, integrity and professional competence - recognized all over the world and expressed confidence that greater justice will be done – especially to the weaker sections of the society and the elderly - senior citizens. Copies of the Appeal have also been sent to Minister for Finance, Minister of Railways etc.

*(Please see copy of the appeal inside)*

### **DOP & Railway Board urged for early Issue of Revised PPOs to existing Pensioners**

## **Railways call for application to start the process of Issue of Revised PPOs to Existing Pensioners – Last date for submission of application June 30**

RSCWS had urged the DOP & Railway Board for early Issue of Revised PPOs to existing Pensioners as lesser amount of Revised Pension was being paid (by the Banks in many cases) – than that due under the DOPs orders cited above – especially in cases where the revised Pension was to be fixed at a higher level than the Fixation Table – in terms of Para 4.2 of the DOPs OM cited above or even as per clarification which inter-alia provides that “-- the revised pension, in no case, shall be lower than 50 % of the sum of the minimum of the pay in the pay band plus the grade pay corresponding to the pre-revised pay scale from which the pensioner had retired.” Earlier RSCWS had also raised the issue under RTI, for issue of PPOs early.

Railways have since called for applications to start the process of Issue of Revised PPOs to existing Pensioners. Last date for receipt of the applications & furnishing requisite information has been fixed as June 30, 2009 as per notification issued by the Northern Railway. All existing Pensioners are advised to send the requisite information & documents to the respective Settlement Sections of the HQ office/Divisional office/Workshop from which they retired even if they had sent it earlier.

*(Please see detailed Notice & Form of application inside)*

### **NOTICE –**

*Free Medical Camp for advanced check up for Eyes, Dental & Heart*

**NEXT GENERAL BODY MEETING & FREE MEDICAL CAMP OF  
RAILWAY SENIOR CITIZENS WELFARE SOCIETY (RSCWS) CHANDIGARH,**

**SHALL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, 4<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2009 FROM 10 AM TO 1 PM,  
AT FORTIS HOSPITAL, (3<sup>RD</sup> FLOOR AUDITORIUM) SECTOR 68, PHASE 8, MOHALI**

**MEMBERS OF RSCWS ARE REQUESTED TO PLEASE ATTEND POSITIVELY -  
ALONG WITH THEIR SPOUSES & OTHER SENIOR CITIZENS OF RAILWAYS**

**LUNCH & TEA SHALL BE SERVED AFTER THE MEETING –**

*New Directory of RSCWS shall also be released & distributed to the Members during the meeting*

*Secretary General, RSCWS*

**Visit our website [www.rscws.com](http://www.rscws.com) regularly**

**For Administrative Orders &**

**Multifarious Features of interest of Pensioners & others**

**Up-to-Date information of Activities of RSCWS & much more**

**Railways again urged by RSCWS to Recognise Private Hospitals & upgrade 'Lockup Dispensary' CDG***Copy of letter from SG, RSCWS to Chairman & Director General Health Services, Railway Board.*

**Subject:- Recognition / Empanelment of Specialised Private Hospitals at Chandigarh**  
**- Case of Fortis Hospital, Mohali (near Chandigarh).**

We once again draw your kind attention to the sad plight of large number of serving & retired Railway officials & their dependents residing in and around the tri-city of Chandigarh, Panchkula & Mohali. As already mentioned in our letter cited above, it is regretted that the Railways have not so far recognized any Private Hospital at Chandigarh, Panchkula or Mohali, in spite of absolute lack of any medical facility by the Railways itself, in the tri-city - except a lock-up dispensary which opens only for three days in a week.

There are nearly 700 Railway employees and about 300 Pensioners settled in the tri-city of Chandigarh, Mohali and Panchkula, with about 3 to 4 times that number as members of their families - there by having an aggregate of nearly 3000 to 4000 Railway beneficiaries settled in the tri-city. This number is ever rising due to introduction and extension of new trains to the city, on going extension of Railway line from Chandigarh to Ludhiana, and settling of ever rising number of Pensioner in and around the city.

All of them, specially the Senior Citizens, were facing serious problems due to non-availability of any medical facilities by the Railways at Chandigarh. Even though there were a number of specialized private hospitals at Chandigarh, but none of these were recognized by the Railways, inspite of representations by NRMU in GM PNM (opening) as well as numerous representations by the Railway Senior Citizens Association (RSCWS), Chandigarh.

The proposal for empanelment of Fortis Hospital, Mohali (near Chandigarh, has been pending with Railway Board for the past some time, after having been forwarded by the Director Medical and Health Services Northern Railways.

It is, therefore, requested that:

i) The Fortis Multi-Specialty Hospital, Mohali, may please be empanelled early by the Railways for treatment of serving & retired Railway officials & their families, since it is the best specialized hospital in the region & has finally agreed to provide specialized treatment to the serving & retired Railway officials & their dependents on CGHS rates – which are much below their normal rates.

ii) The Lock-up Dispensary at Chandigarh may please be upgraded as Railway Hospital early in view of fast increasing number of Railway beneficiaries in and around Chandigarh.

**Retired Employees Liberalised Health Scheme Reopened For Retired Railway Employees**

**Scheme Open- 16.03.2009 to 31.03.2010 - (Reference: Railway Boards letter no**

- All retired Railway employees, having qualifying service period and who have not joined the Retired Employees' Liberalised Health Scheme (RELHS-97) earlier, are eligible to avail the last and final chance to join RELHS-97.
- Pensioners & Family Pensioners can join the scheme by paying 2 months Revised Basic Pension and SRPF Optees can join it by contributing twice the amount of Ex-gratia admissible on the date of joining the Scheme.
- There will be a "lock-in" period of six months from the date of joining the scheme i.e. date of depositing the fees.
- During this "lock-in" period the employees can avail medical treatment in Railway hospitals and other Govt. Hospitals including Govt. owned autonomous hospitals and Govt. medical college hospitals only.
- They will not be referred to private hospitals which are recognised for Railway employees and other RELHS Card holders. In any circumstances and in any medical condition, during the Lock-in period, reimbursement of medical claims for treatment taken in any private hospitals will NOT be permitted.
- RELHS Card will be issued by the Personnel Branch of concerned Railways.
- Any Ex. Employee who is joining this scheme will give a clear declaration along with application that he has full knowledge of all the terms and conditions of this lock-in period and that he will not submit any medical reimbursement claim for treatment taken in private hospitals. and will not challenge this order in Court of Law.
- This also applies to spouses of Railway employees who died in harness.
- This scheme would not be extended further after 31.03.2010 in any circumstances.

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 Office Memorandum from Ministry of Health and Family Welfare dated 19<sup>th</sup> February-2009

**Payment / Reimbursement of Medical Expenses allowed from two sources**

**- From Insurance Agencies and from the CGHS or from the Ministry / Department**

**Orders awaited from Railways**

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare carefully considered and it has been decided, with the approval of the Competent Authority that beneficiaries who have subscribed to Medical Insurance Policies in addition to availing CGHS facilities / Central Services (Medical Attendance) Rules, 1944, may be allowed to claim reimbursement from both the sources subject to the condition that the reimbursement from such sources should not exceed the total expenditure incurred by the beneficiary first on the insurance company, which would issue a certificate indicating the amount reimbursed to the Director, CGHS or Head of Department of the Ministry / Department concerned. (Source Link: <http://mohfw.nic.in/s11011-4-2003%2019-feb-2009.pdf>)

Copy of Memorandum dated 28.5.2009 to Prime Minister of India, Submitted by Secretary General, RSCWS

### **Appeal for Removing Disparities in Pension of Pre- 2006 Retirees**

Reference: DOP&PW OM dated 1st September, 2008, 3rd October, 2008 & 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2009

1.1 We would like to bring to your kind notice the plight of the Pre-2006 Central Government pensioners, who have become a victim of injustice because of the arbitrary and discriminatory decision taken by the DOP & PW in implementation of Sixth Pay Commission (SCPC) Report after its approval by the Cabinet.

1.2 The entire class of Pre-2006 pensioners have undergone a substantial loss in their basic pension varying from Rs. 165 to Rs. 7225 pm because of the modifications issued by the DOP & PW in the name of clarifications vide OM of 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2008 cited above subsequent to the acceptance of recommendations of SCPC vide OM of 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2008. Not only that, it has also given rise to a paradoxical situation whereby a post-2006 pensioner retiring from a lower post / grade will draw higher pension than pre-2006 pensioner retiring from a higher post in the immediate past. This is illustrated in cols. 6 & 7 of the attached annexure.

2. **SEQUENCE OF EVENTS** i). **Recommendations of 6<sup>th</sup> CPC:** The essence of recommendations of CPC in respect of Pre-2006 pensioners as per para 5.1.47 of its report is as under:-

- a) Maintain modified parity between present and future retirees i.e. Pre 2006 and Post 2006
- b) Same fitment benefit of 40% as recommended for existing employees and fitment table based on this.
- c) With a view to maintain 'Modified Parity' mentioned in (a) above, the Commission had recommended 'Minimum Pension' to be sum of the 50 % of the minimum of the pay in the pay band and the grade pay thereon corresponding to the pre-revised pay scale from which the pensioner retired.
- d) Option was allowed between fitment table and minimum pension as per (c) above

ii). **IMPLEMENTATION:** a) Govt. accepted the recommendations of 6<sup>th</sup> CPC in respect of pensionary benefits to Central Govt. employees after Cabinet's approval under DOP & PW notification No. 38/37/08-P&PW-(A) of 29th August, 2008. Para 5.1.47 of the Commission's report had been accepted by the Govt.

b) Implementation orders in respect of Pre-2006 pensioners were issued by Ministry of Personnel vide OM of 1st September 2008 (Ref. (i) above). *Recommendation regarding grant of minimum pension to maintain the 'MODIFIED PARITY' conceded in Para 5.1.47 of the report was accepted without any modification and reiterated in para 4.2 of the O.M. of 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2008 as under: "4.2 The fixation of pension will be subject to the provision that the revised pension, in no case, shall be lower than fifty percent of the minimum of the pay in the pay band plus the grade pay corresponding to the pre-revised pay scale from which the pensioner had retired."*

c) Ministry of Personnel (DOP & PW) issued clarification through OM of 3rd October, 2008 which in fact is modification of the above said orders – stating: *"The pension calculated at 50% of the minimum of pay in the pay band plus grade pay would be calculated (i) at the minimum of pay in the pay band (irrespective of the pre-revised scale of pay) plus the grade pay corresponding to the pre-revised scale."*

d) With this modification to the earlier orders of 1<sup>st</sup> Sept. 2008, the pension of pre-2006 pensioners has been de-linked from the scale from which one has retired and even the modified parity (conceded by 6<sup>th</sup> CPC and approved by Cabinet) has been denied resulting into reduction in pension in almost all pay scales mentioned in col. 6 of the annexure. DOP & PW has apparently not even obtained the approval of Union Cabinet for the modifications on the plea that it was only a clarification - as stated in their O.M. of even no. dated 16<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> February, 2009.

iii) **REPRESENTATIONS & GOVERNMENT'S REPLY:** a). Aggrieved by the modifications in the O.M. of 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2008 changing totally the intent of para 4.2 (*quoted above*) of O.M. of 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2008 (issued after Union Cabinet's approval) resulting into substantial financial loss and denial of Modified Parity between the Pre & Post 2006 pensioners, the pensioners across the country made representations to their Ministries / DOP & PW and Prime Minister - in their individual capacity and through the pensioners' Associations.

b). All these representations have been summarily rejected by Ministry of Personnel (DOP & PW) vide their O.M. quoted supra of 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2009 and it has been maintained that instructions / clarifications issued in this regard are in consonance with the decision of the Government on the recommendations the SCPC.

3. **DISREGARD OF ARTICLE 14 OF CONSTITUTION OF INDIA:** The difference in pension of two identical cases separated by a line of pre & post 2006 pensioners gives rise to a class within the class. This question was conclusively settled by a Constitution Bench of Supreme Court of India in the case of *D.S. Nakara (1983)* where in no uncertain terms throughout the judgement it was observed that the date of retirement of an employee cannot form a valid criterion for classification. Such classification based on a cut off date has been held to be arbitrary and unprincipled which does not stand the test of Article 14 of Constitution of India.

4. **PRAYER:** We crave for your indulgence in restoring justice to a large number of Pre-2006 pensioners who are made to suffer because of denial of Modified Parity and consequent reduction in their pension as envisaged erroneously in the modifications of 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2008 which are clearly in contravention of accepted recommendations of Sixth Central Pay Commission. It is, therefore, prayed that the link may please be restored between the minimum of the Pension & the minimum of scale of the post from which one retired; and the recommendations of Sixth CPC – as initially accepted by the Government - may please be implemented in letter & spirit.

**NORTHERN RAILWAY NOTIFICATION****ATTENTION – NORTHERN RAILWAY PENSIONERS - 6<sup>th</sup> CENTRAL PAY COMMISSION**

Revision of pension/family pension of Pre-2006 Pensioners/Family Pensioners is being implemented in terms of Govt. of India O.M. No. F. No.38/37/08-P&PW (A) dated 01.09.2008 and No. 38/37/08-P&PW (A) Pt-1 dated 14.10.2008 circulated under Railway Board's letter No. F (E) III/2008/PN1/12 dated 08.09.2008 and 18.11.2008 respectively. In order to facilitate the above, persons in receipt of pension /Family Pension through Pension Payment Orders (PPOs) issued by Northern Railway, are requested to provide the following information as soon as possible. It is urged that the information be provided by **30.06.2009** so that preparation of revised PPOs, could be undertaken from that date in the largest number of cases. Where the information requested as above is not provided, this office would have to rely on data available with this office, which may be incomplete.

**Data required from for Pre-2006 Pensioners/ Family Pensioners**

To-----, (Pension sanctioning authority/Head of Department)

Sub-Revision of Pension/Family Pension in terms of the recommendations of 6<sup>th</sup> CPC

1. Name of the Applicant: -----
2. Designation:-----
3. Department:-----
4. Date of Birth:-----
5. Date of retirement/death of the Rly. Servant:-----
6. Last pay drawn and scale:-----
7. PPO No. & Date:-----
8. Name of the Bank & Branch:-----
9. Account No.:-----
10. Pension consolidated/revised by Bank as on 01.01.06 (For Pre-2006 Pensioners):-----
11. Present Address:-----
12. Details of family members eligible for Family Pension, with DOB (Proof of DOB must be enclosed)

Date:-----

Place:-----

(Signature)

Contact Tel/Mob No:-----

**NOTE: 1. All pensioners are advised to submit the above information to the settlement section of the HQ office/Divisional office/Workshop from which the concerned Railway employee retired. 2. Photocopy of any one of the following documents in support of Date of Birth of the spouse/ eligible family member may be submitted: i) Birth Certificate ii) School Leaving Certificate iii) Identity Card issued by Railway iv) Medical Card issued by Railway v) PAN Card vi) Passport vii) Voter ID 3. In the absence of the above information/ Application, the process of the revision of Pension/Family Pension may be delayed and the case shall be revised as per the records available for Pre-2006 Pensioners. The above mentioned forms are available on our website.**

Website: [www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in)

Chief Personnel Officer, Northern Railway

**Important Advice to all Pensioners**

Ready to use Forms of application for issue of revised PPOs are enclosed herewith – both for Pre & Post 2006 Retirees.

**All existing Pensioners are advised to send the above information along with request documents so as to reach before 30.6.2009 the respective Settlement Sections of the HQ office/Divisional office/Workshop from which they retired even if they had sent it earlier.**

**The Application for Revised PPO is important in order to get the age of self & dependents (i.e. wife, widowed or divorced daughter etc.) admitted so that Family Pension/ additional Pension after 80 years of age is endorsed in the Revised PPO – as per Notifications of Railway Board dated 1.9.2008 & 21.5.2009.**

Secretary General, RSCWS

**ALL MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO PAY THEIR SUBSCRIPTION FOR 2009 EARLY  
MEMBERS WHOSE SUBSCRIPTION FOR 2008 IS STILL DUE, ARE ALSO REQUESTED TO PLEASE PAY IT EARLY  
MEMBERS ARE ALSO REQUESTED TO**

**DONATE LIBERALLY TO RESERVE / CORPUS FUND**

**STRENGTHEN RSCWS FOR EFFECTIVE PURSUANCE OF THE CAUSE OF ELDERS**

**(NOTE: ALL MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO DONATE RS 500 EACH – AS DECIDED BY EXECUTIVE / GENERAL BODY  
DONATIONS & SUBSCRIPTION MAY BE SENT BY CHEQUE IN FAVOUR OF -**

**“RAILWAY SENIOR CITIZENS WELFARE SOCIETY” - OR PAID IN CASH DIRECTLY TO –**

**SH. K. S. BHANDARI, TREASURER, RSCWS, 3098, SECTOR 22-D, CHANDIGARH (PH. 2711641 & 9815012641).**

Secretary General, RSCWS

**Application Form for Revision of Pension & issue of Revised PPO**  
**By Pensioners / Family Pensioners**

**For revision of Pension as per recommendations of Sixth Pay Commission**

To be submitted to Pension Sanctioning Authority –  
(Settlement Section) HQ Office/Division/Workshop  
(From which concerned Railway employee retired)

\_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_.

(Pension sanctioning authority/Head of Department)

**Subject:- Data required from Pensioners / Family Pensioners for Revision of Pension / Family Pension & issue of Revised PPO - on implementation of Sixth Pay Commission Report**

Reference:- Railway Board's Letter No. F(E)III/2008/PN1/12 Dated 8.9.2008 & 18.11.2008

1. Name of the Applicant:- \_\_\_\_\_
2. Designation & Station :- \_\_\_\_\_
3. Department:- \_\_\_\_\_
4. Date of Birth :- \_\_\_\_\_
5. Date of retirement/ Death of Railway Servant \_\_\_\_\_
6. Last Pay drawn: - Rs \_\_\_\_\_ in the Scale of \_\_\_\_\_  
REVISED TO Rs \_\_\_\_\_ wef 1.1. 1996  
IN THE PAY SCALE OF Pay \_\_\_\_\_
7. PPO Number and Date i) \_\_\_\_\_ Dtd. \_\_\_\_\_  
ii) \_\_\_\_\_ Dtd. \_\_\_\_\_
8. Name & address of Bank & Pension Paying Branch :-  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. Saving Bank Account Number:- \_\_\_\_\_
10. Pension consolidated Pension:- Rs \_\_\_\_\_  
Revised by Bank as on 01.01.06 \_\_\_\_\_  
(For pre-2006 pensioners)
11. Present Address. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

12. Details of Family members Eligible for family pension with date of birth  
(proof of Date of Birth must be enclosed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date:- \_\_\_\_\_  
Place:- \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Tel/Mob No \_\_\_\_\_  
ENCLOSURE:- \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (Signature)

**NOTE: 1. All pensioners are advised to submit the above information to the settlement section of the HQ office/Divisional office/Workshop from which the concerned Railway employee retired.**

**2. Photocopy of any one of the following documents in support of Date of Birth of the spouse/ eligible family member may be submitted: i) Birth Certificate ii) School Leaving Certificate iii) Identity Card issued by Railway iv) Medical Card issued by Railway v) PAN Card vi) Passport vii) Voter ID Card.**

**OPTION FORM FOR REVISED PAY STRUCTURE FOR POST-2006 PENSIONERS**

*(To be submitted Through Settlement Section), HQ Office / Division / Workshop*

*(From which concerned Railway employee retired)*

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*(Pension sanctioning authority/Head of Department)*

**i) I Shri/Smt/Ms....., hereby elect the Revised Pay w.e.f. 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2006.**

**OR**

**ii) I Shri/Smt/Ms ..... hereby elect to continue on the existing Scale of Pay of my substantive/officiating Post mentioned below until:**

**\* The date of my next increment**

**\* The date of my subsequent increment raising my pay to Rs. \_\_\_\_\_**

**\* I vacate or cease to draw pay in the existing scale**

**\* The date of my promotion to \_\_\_\_\_**

**Existing scale \_\_\_\_\_**

**Date.....**

.....

**(Signature)**

**Place: .....**

**Name .....**

**Designation .....**

**Department.....**

**Station .....**

**PF A/C No. ....**

**OPTION Form for Revised Commutation for Post-2006 Pensioners**

**Shri/Smt/Ms ....., hereby opt commuting the amount of pension that has become additionally commutable on account of retrospective revision of pension.**

**Date -----**

.....

**(Signature)**

**Place: .....**

**Name .....**

**Designation .....**

**Department.....**

**Station .....**

**PF A/C No. ....**