

Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare

Important events for the month of January, 2023 are as follows:-

1. Central Civil Services (Extraordinary Pension) Rules, 2023 :-

Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare has notified revised Central Civil Services (Extraordinary Pension) Rules, 2023 after reviewing and rationalizing the pre-independence era Central Civil Services (Extraordinary Pension) Rules, 1939.

While the revised EOP Rules do not envisage any change in the conditions of eligibility or entitlements of disability pension or family pension, the following new provisions have been included in the Rules to make them elaborate and to bring about more clarity -

- A specific provision has been included in the Rules that NPS employees will also be covered by these Rules if Option to this effect is given under CCS (Implementation of NPS) Rules, 2021
- No application will be required from employee/ family for sanction of disability pension/family pension. HOO will initiate the process on his own.
- Secretary of the administrative Ministry/Department would be competent to grant disability pension/family pension and he could further delegate this power to a Joint Secretary level officer in the Department or the organization concerned.
- The authority will be competent to sanction disability pension or family pension even in a case not strictly covered by the guidelines but is otherwise considered attributable to Government service.
- Disability pension or family pension shall be sanctioned even in cases not strictly covered by the guidelines but is otherwise considered attributable to Government service, competent authority will sanction.
- The competent authority will award a family pension even in cases where a medical report could not be secured on death of an employee, if the said authority is otherwise satisfied about causal connection between death and Government service.
- Provision regarding admissibility of additional pension for old pensioners has been incorporated in the revised rules.
- Schedule -I relating to the list of diseases has been updated by including certain additional diseases which can be contracted in the performance of duty, including pandemics like COVID-19.
- A new Schedule (i.e. Schedule-III) has been included in the rules listing out the circumstances in which death or disability of a Government servant is to be reckoned as attributable to Government service under Category B, Category C and Category D
- Death and disability occurring while on duty in the specified high altitude, inaccessible border posts, etc on account of natural disaster, extreme weather conditions, has been included in Category C and death or disability arising in an operation to evacuate Indian nationals from a war-torn foreign country has been included in Category D

- Specific provision has been made in the revised rules for processing of cases of disability pension and extraordinary family pension through Bhavishya.
 - Detailed procedure has been laid down for processing of disability pension and family pension under EOP Rules.
 - Pending decision on/payment of disability pension under EOP Rules, provisional pension under CCS (Pension) Rules shall be granted.
 - HOO shall ensure that all cases for grant of disability pension and family pension are processed as per timelines and provisional pension or provisional family pension, as the case may be, is sanctioned/ paid pending authorization of final pension / family pension.
 - In case of delay, interest shall be paid on arrears of pension or family pension or gratuity and responsibility shall be fixed for the delay.
2. Cases studies regarding clarification/suggestions on Pension policy issued to the Ministries/Departments from July-December, 2022 was compiled and forwarded to Ministries/Departments vide Secretary (Pension) DO dated 20.01.2023.

CPENGRAMS

3. DoPPW conducted Inter-Ministerial Review Meeting through Bharat VC on 02.01.2023 with 52 Ministries/Departments/ Organization/UTs Administration under Chairmanship of Secretary (Pension & Pensioners' Welfare) to review the delay in issuance of PPO on Bhavishya portal, delay in disposal of Pension Grievances and pending appeals in CPENGRAMS portal.
4. During the month, 4526 grievances were registered and 4526 disposed of. Closing balance as on 31st January, 2023 is 3160. Detailed position is as under:-

	B/F as on 01/01/2023	Grievances received During the Month	Grievances disposed During the Month	Grievances Disposed within one Month	Total Pending as on 31/01/2023
Total	3160	4526	4526	2178	3160

BHAVISHYA PORTAL

5. Workshop on 'Bhavishya' for the officials of CBI and other Central Government Ministries/Departments was organized at Pune on 13th January, 2023 under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary (Pension). Another workshop on Bhavishya was organized at CBI Academy, Ghaziabad on 24th January, 2023. Beside this, Five (5) training sessions were organized on Bhavishya for the officials of Ministries/Department through Video Conferencing.
6. BHAVISHYA is a web based online pension sanction and payment tracking system developed by the Department. The system helps both the retiring employee and the administrative authorities to monitor and track delays. Administrative authorities also benefits from the inbuilt automatic calculations as per provisions of the various pension

rules. As on 01.02.2023, Bhavishya is running in the main Secretariat of 97 Ministries/Departments/Apex Bodies and 818 attached offices through 7939 DDOs. A mobile app has also been launched on the Umang platform through which 'Bhavishya' can be accessed by various stake-holders. Pension cases of 36406 retiring/retired employees are in various stages of processing through the system as on 01.02.2023. Further, this application has so far cumulatively processed and issued PPOs in respect of 186948 pensioners. 3732 number of PPOs were issued through Bhavishya System in the month of January, 2023. Bhavishya' has been successfully integrated with PFMS Pension Module for generation of e-PPO.

7. Action Taken Report (ATR)/ Proposed to be taken on 120th Report of Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee was furnished to Rajya Sabha Secretariat.

ANUBHAV

8. Anubhav: Since inception of the scheme in March, 2015, 8938 write ups have been published and 4742 are waiting for publication by the different Ministries/Departments under Anubhav portal up to 31.01.2023. In the month of January, 2023, 40 incremental of Anubhav write ups were published.
9. This Department has launched a nationwide Webinar Series "Anubhav Awardees Speak" from the 22nd of November 2022. The webinar series aims to facilitate experience sharing with relevant stakeholders and concerned Ministries/Departments/ Organizations. The webinar series will feature two Anubhav Awardees as speakers to share their experience and to motivate/raise awareness among retiring employees on filling up their own experiences on the Anubhav Portal. Webinars are scheduled to take place on a monthly basis. Second webinar of the series was held on 30.01.2023. Ms. C. Sharda Prabhakar, Scientist-G, DRDO [Anubhav Awardee, 2022] and Dr. Apren T.J. Scientist/Engineer-G, Department of Space [Anubhav Awardee, 2018] shared their experience. The webinar was attended by officers dealing with Anubhav portal in Ministries/ Departments/Organisations and officials who are due to retire within the next 3 months. About 900 attendees were present during the webinar.

SANKALP

10. Sankalp: Under the initiative 'Sankalp', the Department has so far conducted 48 Pre-Retirement Counseling (PRC) Workshops, which benefited 6572 employees.
11. **Procurement through GeM:-** The Department of P&PW has placed 16 (sixteen) orders for amount involving Rs. 3,20,812/- through GeM for supply of electronic items, Furniture & Stationery etc. during January, 2023 (Orders for Products).
