

Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare

Important events for the month of October 2021 are as follows:-

1. In pursuance of the decision of the Cabinet on 21.10.2021, Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare has issued orders on 27.10.2021 for enhancing the Dearness Relief admissible to Central Government pensioners/family pensioners from the existing rate of 28% to 31% of the basic pension/family pension (including additional pension/family pension) w.e.f 01.07.2021. The orders would be applicable, among others, to civilian pensioners, Armed Forces Pensioners, Civilian Pensioners paid out of the Defence Service Estimates, All India Service Pensioners and Railway Pensioners.
2. Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare conducted a meeting with the representatives of Pension Disbursing Banks on 06.10.2021 to discuss the preparedness of the Banks with regard to submission of Annual Life Certificates. Further, I have sent D.O. letters on 22.10.2021 to CMDs of all Pension Disbursing Banks for rolling out the utility connected with Video based Life certificates in time, so that the process of obtaining Life Certificate by pensioners is eased out. Video based Life Certificate has been rolled out in all CPPC/Circles of State Bank of India from 1st November 2021. The Department also started a pilot using face-recognition technology, in association with Meity for giving DLC. For this purpose, Registered Pensioners; Associations have been roped in different cities and their officials are going door-to-door to help Pensioners who are immobile to give their Life Certificate digitally. This has proved a boon to Pensioners in pandemic times.
3. As per Action Plan of events under Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav to commemorate 75 years of India's Independence, an online workshop on Pension Awareness for senior government pensioners and family pensioners above the age of 75 years was held on 28.10.2021 in which Pensioners from different cities across India participated.
4. On the recommendations of the Sectoral Group of Secretaries (SGoS), a comprehensive Review & Rationalization of the Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules, 1972 was undertaken in the Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare and the draft of the revised Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules was prepared and circulated on 24.07.2020 for seeking comments/views of all concerned Departments. Comments were received from DOE, DoPT, CGA and MoHUA by March, 2021, were further considered in the Department of Pension and PW and after incorporating the comments received from these Departments suitably, the modified draft revised Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules was again circulated to all concerned (i.e DOE, DoPT, CGA and MoHUA) on 08.04.2021 for seeking their further comments/views by 30.04.2021. The final comments received from these Ministries/Departments have been compiled and the file was referred to Ministry of Law (Legislative Department) on 07.07.2021 for vetting of the draft Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules and Forms/Formats there under. Now the vetted draft has been received and further action is being taken for correction of the draft notification and for obtaining concurrence of C&AG and vetting of Hindi version of the draft notification.
5. A proposal for extending the benefit of CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972 to the family of missing Central Government employees covered under NPS was forwarded to

Department of Expenditure for concurrence on 04.08.2021 after receipt of comments from DFS, CGA and DoPT. The proposal has been received back from Department of Expenditure vide their note dated 06.10.2021 seeking some clarification on the proposal.

6. For ensuring timely and qualitative disposal of grievances registered in CPENGRAMS, Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare (DOPPW) conducted Inter Ministerial Review Meeting on 27.10.2021 with Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), Department of Social Justice and Empowerment, Department of Higher Education, Department of Revenue, Ministry of Culture and Department of School Education and Literacy.
7. Seven (7) training sessions were organized on Bhavishya for the officials of different Ministries/Departments.