

IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS WITH REGARD TO DEPARTMENT OF PENSION & PENSIONERS' WELFARE FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY, 2021

- 1) The Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice headed by Shri Bhupender Yadav, MP, Rajya Sabha desired to have another presentation on the functioning of Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare and to examine the subject namely 'Pensioner's Grievances- Impact of Pension Adalats & Centralized Pensioners' Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPENGRAMS), on 4th January, 2021. Accordingly, Secretary (Pension) appeared before the Committee.
- 2) Rule 9 of CCS (EOP) Rules provides that "if the government servant is retained in service in spite of such disablement, he shall be paid a compensation in lump sum (in lieu of disability pension) on the basis of disability pension admissible to him by arriving at the capitalized value of such disability pension with reference to the Commutation table, in force from time to time". This benefit of lump sum compensation has also been extended to employees covered under NPS, who joined the service on after 01.01.2004 and get disabled in the performance of duty and despite such disablement, it is decided to retain them in service vide this department's OM No 1/3/2019-P&PW (F) dated 1st January, 2021.
- 3) Standing Committee of Voluntary Agencies (SCOVA) works under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble MOS (PP) with Pensioners' Associations to get feedback on policy initiatives of this Department. SCOVA comprises 15 Non-official members (5 from Standing Group and 10 from Rotating Group) represented by the Pensioners Associations (from various Regions/ States etc.) and Official Members represented by various Ministries/ Departments. The Standing Group serves for three terms (each term is of two years). The Rotating Group serves for one term of two years. Reconstitution of SCOVA is done every 2 years. The SCOVA has been reconstituted vide this Department's Resolution no. 42/09/2020-P&PW(D) dated 25.01.2021.
- 4) Draft Service Rules for Central Government employees covered under NPS were framed and circulated on 05.06.2018 to the concerned Departments for their comments. Thereafter, draft service rules were revised on the basis of comments received from these Departments and were again circulated to concerned Departments on 01.05.2019 for their comments etc. On the basis of further comments received from these Departments viz. Department of Expenditure, DoPT, DFS, CGA & PFRDA on the revised draft rules, Draft service rules were modified and forwarded to Legislative Department on 11.06.2020 for drafting in legal format. Legislative Department had some observations and also suggested some correction in the draft service rules. Legislative Department vide their note dated 10.12.2020 have vetted the draft service rules. Final draft service rules have been forwarded to Legislative Department on 18.01.2021 for providing Hindi version of these rules.