

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

1. Keeping in view the fact that a child suffering from a disability requires greater medical care and financial assistance, Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare has issued instructions vide OM No 1/17/2019-P&PW (E) dated 08.02.2021 and liberalised the income criteria for eligibility of a child/sibling of a deceased Government servant/pensioner for grant of family pension under CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972. Now a child/sibling of a deceased Government servant/pensioner, who is suffering from a mental or physical disability, shall be eligible for family pension for life, if his/her overall income, other than family pension, is less than the entitled family pension at ordinary rate i.e. 30% of the last pay drawn by the deceased Government servant/pensioner plus the Dearness Relief admissible thereon.

2. The maximum amount of two family pensions eligible to a child after death of both the parents has been upgraded vide DoPPW OM No 1/1(2)/2020-P&PW (E) Part-I dated 12.02.2021. A child is eligible to draw two family pensions after death of his /her parents, if both were in Government service. Earlier the maximum amount admissible in such cases was Rs 45,000/- per month and Rs 27,000/- per month which were determined at the rate of 50% and 30%, respectively taking into account of the highest pay of Rs. 90,000/- as per 6th CPC recommendations. Since the highest pay has been revised to Rs. 2,50,000 per month after the implementation of 7th CPC recommendations, therefore the amount prescribed in Rule 54(11) of CCS (Pension) Rules has also been revised to 1,25,000/- rupees per month being 50% of Rs.2,50,000/- and 75000/- per month being 30% of Rs. 2,50,000/-.

3. The Department-related parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice headed by Shri Bhupender Yadav, MP, Rajya Sabha desired to have presentation on the Demand of Grants for the FY 2021-2022 of Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare on 19th February, 2021. Accordingly, Secretary (Pension) appeared before the Committee.

4. DoPPW vide O.M No 12/19/2020-P&PW(H)-6569 dated 18.02.2021 has issued instructions for procedure to be adopted in cases where a Central Government employee expires after retirement but before filing pension claim papers. This

order was issued to avoid any hardship to the family pensioner as many organizations were referring such cases to DoPPW for clarification.

5. The Standing Committee of the National Council (JCM) under the chairmanship of Secretary (Personnel) was held on 26.02.2021 in which senior officers of DoPPW have also participated.

6. 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 were forwarded to Legislative Department (OL Wing) on 18.01.2021 for providing Hindi version of these rules. Legislative Department forwarded Hindi version with some corrections. Revised draft were again forwarded to Legislative Department (OL) on 25.02.2021 for vetting before notification.

7. Seven (7) training sessions through Video conferencing were organized on Bhavishya for the official of UT of Andaman & Nicobar, CBI and CAPFs.
