

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

1. As per the Action Plan of events under **Bharat 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 07.09.2021 in which Pensioners from ten (10) cities of Northern region participated.
2. Keeping in view the onset of time to give Life Certificates this year, DoPPW reiterated instructions, vide its O.M. No. 1(8)/2021-P&PW(H), dated 20.09.2021, to all Pension Disbursing Authorities and (PDAs) and for information of pensioners/family pensioners about various methods available to a pensioner for submission of Life Certificate.
3. In view of the Covid pandemic, all Pension Disbursing Banks were advised by DoPPW vide its O.M No. 1(9)/2021-P&PW(H), dated 22.09.2021, **to ensure proper social distancing measures**, as well as compliance of Covid appropriate behaviour, while obtaining life certificates from pensioners/family pensioners who physically visit the branches. **Doorstep Banking service**, which also includes collection of Digital Life Certificate from the home of pensioners, caters to a very vulnerable group w.r.t the pandemic. All Pension Disbursing Banks were instructed to ensure that all representatives of the Banks who visit the homes of the pensioners to obtain Life Certificates should be fully vaccinated. It was conveyed that such representatives of banks should be equipped with a proper mask and sanitizer and should be advised to follow the highest possible care while obtaining the Life Certificate through bio-metric devices. **These instructions shall also be applicable to Postmen and Gramin Dak Sevaks** deployed for "Doorstep Service for submission of Life Certificate" by India Post Payments bank (IPPB).
4. DoPPW issued instructions vide its O.M. No. 1(8)/2021-P&PW(H), dated 22.09.2021, regarding various methods for submission of life certificate by **pensioners/family pensioners residing abroad**.
5. DOPPW vide its O.M No. 42/7/2021-P&PW(D), dated 20.09.2021, has enhanced the **Dearness Relief admissible to the CPF beneficiaries** in receipt of basic ex-gratia payment in the 5th CPC series with effect from 01.07.2021 from 312 % to 356% and 304 % to 348 % for different categories.
6. Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare issued instructions vide its O.M No. 1/7/2020-P&PW (F), dated 30th September, 2021, that on death of a Government servant in the performance of bona fide duty, **payment of ex-gratia**

lump sum compensation may be made to a member or members of the family in whose favour a nomination is made by the Government servant during service in the Common Nomination Form (Form-1). Form-1 has been amended suitably to include nomination for ex-gratia lump sum along with nominations for gratuity, GPF and CGEGIS. Family for this purpose shall have the same meaning as in the case of gratuity.

7. For ensuring timely and qualitative disposal of grievances registered in CPENGRAMS, Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare (DOPPW) conducted an **Inter Ministerial Review Meeting through VC** with the Ministry of Water Resource RD & GR, the Ministry of Railways, the Department of Telecommunication and the M/o Information & Broadcasting.
8. On the recommendations of the Sectoral Group of Secretaries (SGoS), a **comprehensive review of the Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules, 1972** was undertaken in the Department of Pension and PW. After obtaining the concurrence/views the Department of Expenditure (DOE), Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT), Controller General of Accounts (CGA) and Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) the file has been sent to Legislative Department on 09.09.2021 for vetting.
9. Draft service rules for payment of gratuity to Government employees covered under National Pension System were framed by this Department as has been advised by Department of Expenditure and DoLA. After the concurrence of the Department of Expenditure, CGA and DoPT and Legislative Department and concurrence from the O/o of C&AG on these rules for applicability to IA&A service officers, **CCS (Payment of Gratuity under NPS) Rules, 2021** have been notified in the official Gazette on 24.09.2021.
10. A proposal for extending the benefit of CCS(Pension) Rules, 1972 to the family of missing Central Government employees covered under NPS has been forwarded to Department of Expenditure for concurrence on 04.08.2021, after receipt of comments from DFS, CGA and DoPT.
11. Five (5) training sessions on Bhavishya for the officials of Ministries/Department, through Video conferencing, were organized.