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RMS SENTINEL

Editor : D. THEAGARAJAN

Vol. XXIV No. 1

JANUARY 2017



CHQ LOST ITS ADVISOR

With heavy heart I inform you that our dearest colleague lost his breath on 01.01.2017 at 10.30 am after brief illness.

It is my duty to share his services with RMS colleagues. I met him with my father for a compassionate appointment for me in Chennai Stg Divisional Office in early 1981. He followed the Dravidian principles. Once, I reported against him to my former General Secretary Shri. R. Chakravarthy without knowing their relationship. RC told that Shri V. Manickavelu was dismissed from the service for participation during 1968 strike. Because of DMK affinity he was closely associated with NFPE colleagues. But mentally he was with FNPO only. He worked in the Divisional Office for nearly 10 years as a staff clerk. Most of the time, I reported against him to my then Divisional Secretaries. In 1994 Shri V. Ganesan, the then Circle President NUR 'C' wanted to include him in the NUR 'C' Circle Office bearer list. I opposed this and proposed Shri S. Thangaraj in his place. After a long deliberation, both were included in the list. After assuming as Organising Secretary in the NUR 'C', Both of us were mis-

understanding each other and every issue was countered by him. Conflicts went on for a year. Slowly, we understood each other in the year 1995 after the demise of our beloved leader Shri. K. Ramamurthy. After that, we started working together for the organization mentally, physically without any differences till his death. During the last 22 years, I used to consult each and every issue with him. Without his knowledge, not even a single letter was dispatched from CHQ. He never expected any remuneration for his contribution in the last 22 years.

In Political front both were in different views. He never agreed with me even for a single political issue. He is dead against to the ideology of the congress. But he never interferes with my thoughts while writing. He will reflect my views more than my expectations during letter drafting. He strongly believed that negotiation alone will not find a solution for the issues. As per his view, the struggle is inevitable in each and every issue. I am sure that he has spent more time with me than his family members in the last 25 years. I lost my elder brother, friend, advisor and well wisher. I have no words to console the family members of Shri. V. Manickavelu. I salute Shri V. Manickavelu till my last breath.

JOURNAL OF THE NATIONAL UNION OF RMS & MMS EMPLOYEES, GROUP 'C'
CH 17-1-18, ATUL GROVE ROAD, NEW DELHI - 110 001, PHONE : 23321378

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RS. 30/-

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

Travelling Allowance claim to the Family of Deceased Govt. Servant: Time Limit of 1 year can be extended

Dated: 08th Dec, 2016

No.19016/1/2015-E.IV
Government of India, Ministry of Finance
Department of Expenditure
North Block, New Delhi

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Launching/Introduction of New Recruitment Rules Formulation, Amendment Monitoring System (RRFAMS) Portal – reg.

Dated the 21st December, 2016

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

various references are being received in this Department seeking clarification from this Department as to whether Rule below SR-148 for admitting Travelling Allowance (TA) claim by family of deceased employees beyond one year period of the death of the employee is also covered under Gol decision 2(iii) below Rule SR-147 which provides that 'TA to Central Government servant on retirement may be availed of by a Government servant who is eligible for it, at any time during his leave preparatory to retirement, or within one year of the date of his retirement and powers to extend the time-limit of one year will be exercised by the Administrative Ministries/ Departments with the approval of the FA concerned, in individual cases attendant with special circumstances.'

2. The matter has been considered in this Department and it has been decided that the above provision below SR-147 for extension of time limit of one year with the approval of FA of the concerned Ministry, will also be applicable in case of family of the deceased Govt. servant.

3. This is issued with the approval of Joint Secretary (Personnel).

(Nirmala Dev), Deputy Secretary (EG)

Launching/Introduction of New Recruitment Rules Formulation, Amendment Monitoring System (RRFAMS) Portal – reg

F.No. Misc – 14017/19/2016-Estt.(RR)
Government of India
Ministry of Personnel, P.G. & Pensions
Department of Personnel and Training
Estt. RR Division
North Block, New Delhi

At present, the proposals for framing/amendment of RRs are first processed in the on-line mode through RRFAMS portal. The proposal received on this portal is scrutinized in DOP&T and preliminary observations are conveyed through the system. Thereafter the Ministries/Departments send their proposals along with comments received in the RRFAMS and necessary Annexure, hierarchy chart etc. in the physical file.

2. It has been decided to launch a fully computerized/online system of examination of RRs and to dispense with the requirement of sending physical file to DOP&T. This system would further be extended in future so that a similar on line scrutiny/approval of the proposal of framing/ amendment of RRs are undertaken by UPSC and DOLA without the need reference of physical file for finalization of RRs

3. In this regard the existing RRFAMS system has been upgraded and following new features have been added:

(i) Uploading of existing RRs/post creation/abolition etc.

(ii) Hierarchy chart

(iii) On line system for examination and approval of RRs for Group 'C' posts within the Ministry.

4. Before the launch of the above portal, it has been decided to have a preparatory meeting wherein a trial run of the new system will be made. All the Ministries/Departments are requested to nominate a nodal officer at the level of Under Secretary who may bring the relevant proposal along with all necessary documents to fill-up the proposal on the new RRFAMS portal, as per the schedule given in Annexure.

(G. Jayanthi)
Director (E-I)

Annexure

Schedule of the meeting to be taken by Joint Secretary (Establishment) before the launch of new RRFAMS portal (Venue Room No. 190, North Block New Delhi)

S.No Ministries starting with alphabets
Date and Time

1. A-E 18th December, 2016 at 4.30 PM
2. F-P 20th December, 2016 at 4.30 PM
3. Q-Z 22nd December, 2016 at 4.30 PM

Revision of Income Limit for Dependency for CGHS Coverage to family Members

No. S-11012/2/2016-CGHS-P

Government of India

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

(CGHS-P Section) Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi

Dated the 8th November, 2016

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub: Revision of Income limit for dependency for the purpose of providing Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) coverage to family members of the CGHS covered employees subsequent to implementation of recommendation of the seventh Central pay commission-regarding

The undersigned is directed to say that subsequent to the implementation of the recommendations of the 6th CPC, the income limit for dependency for the purpose of extending CGHS coverage to "family" members of the CGHS covered Central Government employees was enhanced to Rs. 3500/- per month plus the amount of dearness relief on the basic pension of Rs. 3500/- as on the date of consideration.

2. With the implementation of the recommendations of the 7th Central pay commission, the issue of revision of income limit for dependency for the purpose of providing CGHS coverage to family members of the CGHS covered Central Government employees and pensioner CGHS beneficiaries was under consideration keeping in view the amount of minimum pension/ family pension fixed by the 7th Central pay commission.

3. On the basis of the recommendations of the 7th CPC, the Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare under Para 5.2 of their OM No. 38/37/2016-P&PW (A)(i) dated 4/8/2016, has fixed the amount of minimum pension at ~ Rs. 9,000/- per month and

under para 7.1 of this OM the amount of family pension has been fixed as 30% of the basic pay in revised pay structure and shall be subject to a minimum of Rs. 9,000/- per month and maximum of 30% of the highest pay in the Government. Vide Para 7.3 of the aforesaid O.M, It has been mentioned that there will be no other change in the provisions regulating family pension.

4. It has been decided, in consultation with the Department of Expenditure, to revise the income limit for the purpose of providing CGHS coverage to the family members of the CGHS covered Central Government employees to Rs. 9,000/- plus the amount of dearness relief on basic pension of Rs. 9,000/- as on the date of consideration.

5. As such, all the orders related to the CGHS Rules stand amended to the extent that the Income limit for Rs. 3500/- per month from all sources including pension and family pension stands amended to an Income of Rs. 9000/- plus amount of the dearness relief on the basic pension of Rs. 9000/- as on the date of consideration. The amount of dearness relief, as indicated in the Income limit stands for the amount of dearness relief drawn by a pensioner/family pensioner on the date of consideration and not the amount of dearness relief due on the date of consideration.

6. The Income limit for dependency of "Rs.9000/- plus amount of the dearness relief on the basic pension of Rs. 9000/- as on the date of consideration", shall also be applicable for the cases covered under CS(MA) Rules, 1944 for the purpose of examining eligibility of family members of the Central Government employee for medical facilities under the Rules.

7. The order shall be effective from the date of Issue of Instructions of this O.M.

8. This issues with the concurrence of Department of Expenditure vide their I.D. No.204/E-V/2016 dated 19/10/2016.

(Sunil Kumar Gupta)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India

Scheme for Promotion of Adventure Sports & Similar Activities amongst Central Government Employees

No.125/1/2015-16-CCSCSB

Government of India

Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, (Department of Personnel & Training)

Room No. 361, 'B' Wing, 3rd Floor,

Lok Nayak Bhawan, New Delhi-110 003

Dated: 08th December, 2016

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

The undersigned is directed to refer to the CCSCSB's Office Memorandum of even number dated 26th April, 2016 regarding Scheme for Promotion of Adventure Sports & Similar Activities amongst Central Government Employees and to convey that the CCSCSB, DOPT has extended the duration of adventure sports & related activities up to 10 days from the earlier of 5-7 days, subject to the following conditions:

- i. There would be no increase in the financial ceiling already approved for the scheme.
- ii. No leave other than special Casual Leave of 10 days granted for this purpose would be given under this scheme.

(Md. Nadeem)

At present, there is no need for filing of Declarations of assets and liabilities

Now there is no requirement for filing of Declarations of assets and liabilities by Public servants. Because the Government is in the process of finalising a fresh set of Rules. The said rules will be notified in due course to prescribe the form, manner, and timeliness of filing of assets and liabilities. All Public Servants will henceforth

be required to file the declarations as may be prescribed by the fresh set of rules

F. No. 21/2/2014-cs.I(U)
Government of India
Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions
Department of Personnel & Training
CS-I (PR/CMS) Section
2nd Floor, Lok Nayak Bhawan,
Khan Market, New Delhi,

Dated December 08, 2016

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub: Declaration of Assets and Liabilities by public servants under amended Section 44 of the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act. 2013 – regarding.

The undersigned is directed to forward herewith this Department's OM dated 01.12.2016 regarding the furnishing of Information relating to the assets and liabilities by public servants under Section 44 of the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act. 2013 (the Act).

2. Contents of the said OM may please be brought to the notice of all concerned

Encl: As above.

(Raju Saraswat)

Under Secretary to the Government Of India

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CHQ MARCH - DECEMBER 2016

Cancelling the irregular shifting of Sri N.K. Tyagi from the Platform Inspector, Saharapur TMO.

Open and undue favouritism towards AIRMS members by Circle Administration

Request to attend NURC, Tamil Nadu Circle Conference as CHQ observer

Appointment of Adhoc committee - NUR 'C' Delhi Circle

Closure of Chennai Stg. office (AP Building) Walltax Road, Chennai - 600 003

Shifting of CRC Kolkata RMS to Kolkata AMPC.

Appointment of adhoc Committee - Delhi Circle

GDS MM Retirement in RMS, Kerala Circle

Request for grant of approval to the Adhoc committee of NUR 'C'.

Burning issues in MMS.

Request for issue of suitable instructions to Tamilnadu Circle

Request for retention of promotional posts in MM Region

Loss to the Department.

Introduction of RMS sections in Vaishali Express.

Proposal to extend the RMS section - U 13 Section from Gorakhpur to Kathgodan in Bagh Express.

Non-functioning of RMS units in AP Building of Chennai Stg. Dn.

Shifting of MMS, Madurai.

Dislocation of staff of Gurgaon Stg.

Appointment of Adhoc committee and election of new office bearers for NUR 'C' Delhi Circle

Request to implement cadre restructuring to MMS.

Request to clarify RR of HSG-II accountant in RMS.

Irregular transfer of Rashmin Rathod, Divisional Secretary, RMS 'AM' Division.

Request to implement the rotational policy issued by the directorate from time to time.

DEPARTMENTAL ORDERS

No.7-8/2016-PCC
Government of India
Ministry of Communications
Department of Posts, Dak Bhawan, Sansad
Marg,
New Delhi – 110 001.

Date : 22-11-2016

To
Chief Postmaster General,
Karnataka Circle
Bangalore – 560 001.

Sub : Date of implementation of enhanced
benchmark for financial upgradation under
MACPs – clarification regarding.

I am directed to refer to your DO letter No.
STA/4-4/pm Gr. 11/16-17 dated 21-9-2016 on
the subject mentioned above and to inform
you that change in the benchmark from
"good" to "very good" for granting financial
upgradation under MACPs are to be made
effective from 25-7-2016 as per para no. 6 of
DoP & T OM No. 25034/3/2016-Estt. (D) dated
27/28-9-2016 re-circulated vide this
Directorate letter of even number dated 5-10-
2016.

(R.L. Patel), Asstt. Director General (GDS/
PCC)

Copy to :
All Heads of Circle, Department of Posts

SB ORDER NO. 14/2016 F.No. 116-11/
2016-SB

Government of India
Ministry of Communications
Department of Posts (F.S. Division)
Dak Bhawan, Sansad Marg,
New Delhi – 110 001.

Date : 7-12-2016

To
All Heads of Circles/Regions
Addl. Director General, APS, New Delhi

Sub : Withdrawal of Legal Tender Character
of existing Rs. 500/- and Rs. 1000/- banknotes
– SB order regarding cash requirement of
Post Offices.

Sir/Madam,

Kindly refer para 1 (vii) of SB order No. 12
dated 8th November 2016 where in it is
mentioned that "All Post Offices should
estimate their cash requirement and obtain
from the linked currency chest, the
banknotes of other valid denominations at
the one and half time of requirement".

Now the competent authority has decided
that the post offices should estimate their
cash requirement on actual basis (as per the
requirement) and accordingly obtain the
same from the linked currency chest.

This issues with the approval of Member
(Banking).

Yours faithfully,
(K.R. Patel)
Assistant Director (SB-II)

Copy to
All concerned

**DA from January 2017 will
be 4% or 5% – Dearness
Allowance Estimation**

**DA from January 2017 will be
4% or 5% based on Consumer
Price Index (Industrial
Workers) from January 2016 to
December 2016 – Net increase
in DA with effect from January
2017 is estimated to be 2% or
3%**

IT EXEMPTION SHOULD BE INCREASED TO 5 LAKH – DELOITTE PRE-BUDGET EXPECTATIONS SURVEY

A recently released Deloitte Pre-Budget Expectations Survey Report reflects what has been widely expected as an easing of income tax limits in Budget 2017. According to the survey, basic income tax exemption should be increased to Rs 5 lakh per year and the ceiling for claiming deduction under Section 80C should be increased to Rs. 2.50 lakh.

While almost all respondents in the survey want the I-T exemption limit increased substantially, 58 percent of them wanted the ceiling to be increased to Rs 5 lakh. As many as 71 percent respondents want the limit of the Section 80C to be increased to Rs. 2.50 lakh from Rs. 1.50 lakh currently.

Many reports in December said that the income tax slabs will be increased to at least Rs 4 lakh. However, a government spokesperson had denied that the income tax would be eased and called the reports baseless. After demonetisation, which has hit many industries and slowed economic growth to 7.1 percent in the most recent quarter, people are hoping to get some respite from the coming Budget.

Increasing the income tax ceiling would give consumers more money to spend, thereby increasing demand.

“The increase in the slab limit will kick-start savings, which will ultimately lead to increase in investment in the system,” stated the Pre-Budget Expectations Survey Report by Deloitte.

The existing deduction limit is low as compared to increase in income levels and inflation. “Increase in limit will help channelise household savings into productive avenues such as insurance, provident fund, equity and the like which will in turn help boost infrastructure spending

and job creation,” the survey said.

It also added that the National Pension Scheme (NPS) should receive tax treatment parity with the Provident Fund (PF). As many as 88 percent of the respondents wanted full tax exemption for withdrawal of NPS. Withdrawals from the NPS are taxed up to 60 percent.

The PF, which is under Exempt – Exempt – Exempt (EEE) regime, is not taxed on withdrawal.

“The government has positioned NPS as an alternative to PF. Therefore, to bring parity and incentivise employees to be part of NPS, it must be brought under the EEE regime,” the report added.

In the survey, Deloitte said that the government is targeting boost in infrastructure spending and requires long-term funds for that. “Hence, it is an apt time to reintroduce deduction for investment in long-term infrastructure bonds as it will provide an additional avenue for individuals to make an investment and save taxes,” the survey suggested.

PJCA meeting held at NFPE office under the Chairmanship of SG, FNPO. Available General Secretaries of FNPO & NFPE participated in the meeting.

PJCA discussed the appeal of the Department and decided the following:

Demanding action taken report on each item given to the department on
17.11.2016

PJCA decided to go on strike on Postal issues shortly. The date of strike and issue of strike notice will be decided shortly.

SG FNPO

GENERAL SECRETARY'S LETTER

Reached Delhi on 19.12.2016.

Protest week: General Secretaries of FNPO affiliated Union addressed Lunch hour demonstration at Dak Bhavan. Shri O.P. Khanna, G.S. AIPAOA arranged programme in an enthusiastic manner at Delhi. Our sincere thanks to all our Circle Secretaries of FNPO affiliated Unions, Delhi Circle.

Departmental Council Meeting: On 20.12.2016, The Chairman, Postal Board conducted a meeting. NUR 'C' General Secretary attended and discussed RMS & MMS issues.

Meeting with CPMG Haryana Circle: On 21/12/2016, General Secretary along with NUR 'C' Circle Secretary of Haryana Circle met CPMG and DPS, discussed pending issues of Haryana Circle. CPMG assured to settle the issues discussed in the meeting.

CWC meeting of Haryana Circle: NUR 'C' General Secretary addressed the CWC meeting and discussed the 7th CPC issues and the need for a strike in the month of February 2017.

Meeting with CPMG Punjab Circle: On 21.12.2016, NUR 'C' General Secretary and Shri Gurunam Singh met CPMG Punjab and discussed the harassment meted out by the staff of the RMS LD Division. CPMG heard our problem and assured to settle the issues within a time frame. Let us hope for the best.

After the meeting G.S. visited Chandigarh Stg and addressed the Gate meeting. S/Shri Dharam Singh, Gurunam Singh, M. Srinivasulu – Karnataka Circle also addressed the meeting.

Visit to Amritsar RMS on 22.12.2016. G.S visited Amritsar RMS along with Circle Secretary Shri Gurunam Singh and addressed the Gate Meeting.

Cadre restructuring status: On 23.12.2016, G.S met the following officers. Director, Motor Vehicle and Director (SPN). There is no improvement on the cadre restructure proposal, which was already sent to the DOP&T and Finance.

Quota: Despite repeated request, the Division Secretaries of many Circle are not responding properly. If Division Secretaries act like this, it will affect our CHQ badly in future. The New General Secretary has to take position at the end of 2017. I appeal to all my Division Secretaries at least send your due quota to CHQ now to keep our financial position healthy. I hope you will cooperate with me. The details of the monthly expenditure are furnished below.

- RMS Sentinal – Printing and posting for 5000 copies. - Rs.10,000/-
- General Secretary, Head Quarters Expenditure - Rs. 5,000/-
- Shri Satish Chandra, Secretary HQ – Salary - Rs. 3,000/-
- CHQ office maintenance - Rs. 1,000/-
- Mobile charges, Letter typing, Xerox and other misc expenditure Rs. 1,000/-

The above expenditure is the minimum requirement for our CHQ. We are receiving only Rs.7,000 to Rs.8,000 from Division Secretaries. I don't want to describe more. I am fed up.

Yours fraternally,



D. Theagarajan

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HARASSMENT METED OUT BY THE OUR RMS STAFF

Off late CHQ is receiving complaints from many Division Secretaries about the harassment by SRM/SSRM/Manager of their divisions. The CHQ was informed the following:

- Division heads are issuing dies-non for submission of Medical Certificate in time. Even after intimating their inability to attend the office in time through telephone to the concern.
- Issuing Rule-16 memorandum to the staff for flimsy reasons.
- Withholding of Pay to the staff, though they have intimated their inability to attend duty to the concern well in advance, even before preparing duty memo.
- Staff are not allowed to avail their weekly rest / other leave, citing the reason as heavy mail receipt/deposit.
- In many RMS Division, the staff working in especially CRC, Speed Post, Parcel hub are not allowed to go home after the prescribed duty hours. Though the directorate issued guidelines for the operational norms for the above products.
- Some of the officials in TMOs are facing Rule-16 Charge Sheets for releasing the MMS Schedule a few minutes late.

The above are only few and common in all the 69 RMS divisions and Parcel/Speed Post

hubs. The CHQ was informed that 30 to 40% staff were issued either dies-non / Rule-16.

The officers visiting Mail Office give instructions to the H.S.A to crush the staff.

Many of the H.S.As obey the officer's instructions. This trend is new to the RMS staff for the past few years. Of course in earlier days, heavy mails were dealt with happily, and our staff also enjoyed the working environment with minimum basic amenities. Now everything has gone into the wind. Now the staff is interested only on the money, promotions and other benefits.

They do not understand that they are losing their social responsibilities. If things go like this, the officials working in the Department will not be peaceful in the coming years.

I appeal to all my Divisional Secretaries, to conduct the General Body meeting by inviting your Circle Secretary. Discuss, Debate and send your views to CHQ. Let us meet in the next month's editorial page.

Yours fraternally,



D. Theagarajan



Please visit our website : www.fnpo.org for day-to-day news.
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