



Federation of National Postal Organisations

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SIVAJI VASIREDDY

Secretary General

No: Dimapur/Nagaland/HRA/2026

dated 07.07.2026

To
Sri Subrat Das,
Chairman Postal Services Board &
Secretary Department of Posts,
Dak Bhawan,
New Delhi 110001

Respected Sir,

Subject: Arbitrary stoppage of House Rent Allowance (HRA) admissible at B-Class (Y-Class) city rates to Postal employees in Nagaland, Mizoram and Dimapur RMS – Request for review and restoration – Reg.

Reference: Directorate Establishment Division Letter No. 04-03/2023-PAP dated 25.02.2025.

My Federation invite your kind attention to the above-mentioned letter whereby the payment of House Rent Allowance (HRA) at the rates applicable to B-Class (Y-Class) cities to Postal employees in Nagaland has been discontinued. The Federation is constrained to submit that the said decision has resulted in serious discrimination and is contrary to the long-standing implementation of the judgments of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

The issue originates from the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in **Civil Appeal No. 2705 of 1991**, pursuant to which all Central Government employees serving in the North-Eastern States, including Postal employees in Nagaland and Mizoram, were extended HRA at the rates applicable to B-Class (Y-Class) cities.

Subsequently, when the staff of Dimapur RMS, who are administratively under the Assam Circle but are actually serving in Nagaland, sought extension of the same benefit, the Directorate, instead of extending the benefit to the RMS employees, issued the above-referred order, resulting in the discontinuance of the higher HRA to Postal employees. However, it is pertinent to point out that employees of other Central Government Departments serving in Nagaland continue to receive HRA at the B-Class (Y-Class) city rates.

The Department itself has consistently recognized and implemented the legal position through the following orders:

1. Department of Posts Order No. 8-40/87-PAP dated 07.03.1994, implementing the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the S.K. Ghosh case and extending the higher HRA benefit.

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2. **Department of Posts Order No. 4-52/98-PAP dated 27.02.1999**, continuing and clarifying the entitlement to higher HRA.
3. **Department of Posts Order F.No. 4-23/2000-PAP dated 01.03.2016**, issued after obtaining the approval of the Ministry of Finance, specifically extending HRA at **B-Class (Y-Class) rates** to Postal employees in Mizoram while expressly referring to the above two Departmental orders and the Supreme Court judgment.

Further, the Hon'ble Gauhati High Court, while deciding matters arising out of **O.A. No. 381/2000**, reproduced the Department's order dated 01.03.2016 and acknowledged that the Ministry of Finance had approved payment of HRA at **B-Class rates** to the applicants, thereby reaffirming the legal and administrative basis of the benefit.

It is respectfully submitted that the recommendations of a Central Pay Commission cannot, by themselves, override or nullify the effect of a binding judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court unless an appropriate legal or statutory modification is made. If any clarification became necessary after implementation of subsequent Pay Commission recommendations or in the context of the forthcoming **8th Central Pay Commission**, the appropriate course of action would have been to obtain clarification from the **Ministry of Finance/Department of Expenditure**, rather than unilaterally discontinuing a benefit that has been flowing from judicial orders and duly approved Government decisions.

The present position has created an anomalous and discriminatory situation wherein Postal employees alone are denied the benefit while similarly placed employees of other Central Government Departments posted in Nagaland continue to enjoy HRA at the higher rates.

In view of the above facts and legal position, the Federation earnestly requests that:

1. The Directorate's letter **F.No. 04-03/2023-PAP dated 25.02.2025** may kindly be reviewed.
2. HRA at the rates applicable to **B-Class (Y-Class) cities** may be restored to all eligible Postal employees serving in Nagaland, Mizoram and Dimapur RMS.
3. Necessary clarification may be obtained from the **Ministry of Finance/Department of Expenditure**, if considered necessary, so that the benefit flowing from the Hon'ble Supreme Court's judgment and the Department's own implementation orders is continued without interruption.

An early and favourable decision in the matter will remove the existing anomaly and ensure parity between Postal employees and other Central Government employees serving under identical conditions in the North-Eastern Region.

Thanking you.

Yours faithfully,


(SIVAJI VASIREDDY)
Secretary General