

**PENSIONERS'**

# **RAIL SAMPARK**

QUARTERLY BULLETIN OF THE

**RAILWAY SENIOR CITIZENS WELFARE SOCIETY (Regd.)**

**CHANDIGARH – PANCHKULA & MOHALI**

(Estd. 1991, Regd. No. 1881 - under Societies Registration Act) Website for Pensioners: [www.rscws.com](http://www.rscws.com)

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**FOR MEMBERS ONLY**

## **National Anomalies Committee Meeting held on March 27, 2010**

### **DEMAND FOR PARITY IN PRE & POST 2006 PENSIONERS AGAIN REJECTED**

#### **Full pension of 50% of last Pay granted after 20 years of Service to those retired after 1-1-2006**

Government has again rejected the demand for parity of Pension between Pre & Post 2006 Pensioners. This was indicated during the Meeting of the National Anomalies Committee held on March 27, 2010 – preceded by an OM of DOP dated 19-3-2010. Government has also not agreed to Parity in pension of all Pre-1996 retirees with those who retired on or after 1.1.1996.

However, it has been agreed to examine the demand for earlier Restoration of Commutation than 15 years – keeping in view the calculations given by the Staff Side & the contention that the period is arbitrary, unjust and contrary to the principle enumerated by the 6th CPC and laid down by the Apex Court. Demand is also under consideration for Special provision for those who retired on or after 1.1.2006 but retain pre-revised scales of pay.

Orders have since been issued for grant of full 50% pension after 20 years of Service to those retired after 1-1-2006 (instead of from 2.9.2008 – as per earlier orders). But the demand for full 50% pension after 20 years of Service to those who retired before 1-1-2006 - has been rejected.

### **ENHANCEMENT OF FIXED MEDICAL ALLOWANCE TO RS 500 - UNDER CONSIDERATION**

Proposal to revise fixed medical allowance from Rs 100 to Rs. 500 plus DA thereon is pending before Dept. of Expenditure. RSCWS & most other Pensioners Associations had demanded FMA @ Rs. 1000 PM.

### **IVY HOSPITAL MOHALI RECOGNISED BY RAILWAY BOARD**

#### **- FOR KIDNEY, CANCER, GYNAE AND OBST. TREATMENTS**

Ivy Hospital, Sector 71, Mohali, has been recognised by Railway Board for Kidney, Cancer, Gynae and Obst. Treatments. It will be on Billing System for cashless treatment of Railway employees & Pensioners and their families – on reference by Railway Doctor (CMS Ambala) as well as in case of Emergency. Further formalities regarding signing of Agreement between Railways & Ivy Hospital are under process.

#### ***Copy of Railway Board's letter No.2009/H-III/10 (N.R) dated 19.02.2010 to GM Northern Railway***

##### **Sub:- Recognition of Ivy Hospital Mohali of Ambala Division /NR.**

Sanction of the Ministry of Railways (Railway Board) is hereby accorded for "Recognition of Ivy Hospital Mohali for the treatment of Kidney Diseases, Cancer, Gynae & Obst. Cases of Railway beneficiaries of Ambala Divisions on CGHS-2008 package rates of Chandigarh, on bill system of payment for a period of one year from the date of issue of sanction. While signing the MOU with the hospital, it may be ensured that the packages are comprehensive one (as defined in CGHS). Upward revision of rates during this period will not be considered.

This issue with the concurrence of the Finance Directorate of the Ministry of Railways

### **Income Tax Slabs 2010-11 Proposed by MoF**

- Nil on Taxable Income up to Rs. 1.6 LAKH (*NO CHANGE OVER LAST YEAR 2009-10*)
- 10 % ON INCOME ABOVE Rs. 1.6 LAKH TO 5.00 LAKH -- (*INSTEAD OF UPTO 3 LAKHS LAST YEAR*)
- 20 % ON INCOME ABOVE 5.00 LAKH TO 8.00 LAKH (*INSTEAD OF UPTO 5 LAKHS LAST YEAR*)
- 30 % ON ABOVE Rs. 8.00 LAKH (*INSTEAD OF ABOVE 5 LAKHS LAST YEAR*),
- DEDUCTION UPTO Rs.1.00 LAKH OF SAVINGS &  
ADDITIONAL DEDUCTION OF Rs. 20,000 FOR INVESTMENT IN INFRASTRUCTURE BONDS
- EXEMPTION LIMIT FOR WOMEN BELOW 65 Rs. 1,90, 000
- EXEMPTION LIMIT FOR INCOME TAX FOR SENIOR CITIZENS (AGE 65 YEARS OR MORE) Rs. 2, 40, 000

(See detailed comments on the Union & Railway Budgets in the Editorial on Page 2)

**GENERAL BODY MEETING OF RSCWS CHANDIGARH SHALL BE HELD ON SUNDAY  
25-4-2010 FROM 10 AM TO 1 PM, AT GOVT MUSEUM AUDITORIUM, SECTOR 10, CHANDIGARH – SG**

**EDITORIAL****TAX RELIEF - MORE FOR RICH, LESS FOR THE POOR**

Union Finance Minister, Pranab Mukherjee, tried to please all through his Budget for the year 2010-11, presented to the Parliament recently – although he had more largesse for the rich than for the poor.

Substantial relief was proposed to be provided in the Personal Income Tax at all levels – starting from an Income level of over 3 lakhs by reducing the rate of Income Tax from 20 to 10% between 3 to 5 lakhs and from 30% to 20% between 5 to 8 lakhs while retaining it at 30% above 8 lakhs. Net savings in Income Tax alone shall be going up to Rs 51,000 in higher Income slabs. But it shall be nil up to the Income level of Rs 3 lakh or less.

How the Government justifies this discrimination – is anybody's guess. But it is a great injustice with the middle income group of salaried class - which has been badly neglected in spite of high level of inflation

While the union budget reflects the strength & resilience of the Indian economy which has been able to withstand the onslaught of the global recession; but the hype in a section of media regarding the so called "substantial relief in Income Tax" was totally misleading & misplaced - as the proposed relief is only for the higher Income slabs - above Rs 3 lakhs PA - but nothing below that - thus completely ignoring the Middle class.

There was over 15 % rise in the Consumer Price Index during the year 2009-10. As such the exemption limit from Income Tax should have been at least proportionately raised from Rs. 1.6 lakhs to Rs. 2 lakhs for individuals and Rs. 3 lakhs for the Senior Citizens - so as to neutralise the impact of the Price Rise - although bigger relief was required for the Middle Income group – considering the lopsided Report of the Sixth Pay Commission and the need to exempt the DA, HRA & other Allowances from Income Tax - as recommended by the Fifth Pay Commission but not implemented so far - even after so many years of submission of its Report.

The Direct Tax Code to be introduced next year – is proposed to revise the decades old Tax regime. But the proposed draft does not reflect the intension of the Government to exempt the DA, HRA & other Allowances. The working class must fight against this injustice and call upon the Government to exempt the DA, HRA & other Allowances from Income Tax to protect its real Income. The reducing of age limit from 65 to 60 years is also long over due for being considered as Senior Citizen for Tax exemption and should now be adopted positively.

**RAILWAYS MUST INCREASE ITS FREIGHTS & FARES - TO REALISE 'VISION 2020'**

We complement the Railway Minister Kumari Mamata Banerjee, in presenting a Railway Budget 'with a difference' for the year 2010-11 - to meet the aspirations of all States & Regions for new Railway Lines, new & faster trains, increased frequency of some trains, augmentation of Suburban traffic & improved passenger amenities etc. The Budget also focuses on the welfare of the Railway men and proposes Houses for all rail employees in next 10 years; raising Staff Benefit Fund from Rs.350 to Rs.500 per head; 522 hospitals, 50 Kendriya Vidyalayas, 10 residential schools, model degree colleges, technical and management institutes for railway employees on Railway land; Super-specialty Medical facilities for the Railway employees and their families; augmentation of Rolling Stock & Locomotives & expansion of PUs etc.

It is also proposed that:

- i) Integral Coach Factory, Chennai to be further modernised and expanded
- ii) Mid-Life Rehabilitation workshop at Anara (Adra) with an annual capacity of 250 coaches.
- iii) Centres of Excellence in Wagon Prototyping in Railway Workshops to be set up at Kharagpur Workshop.
- iv) Modernize and augment the capacity of CLW from its present level of 200 locomotives to 275
- v) Work in Rae Bareilly, will be speeded up.
- vi) Establishment of new coach factory at Kancharapara and Palakkad is in progress.
- vii) Work on the loco factories at Madhepura and Marhora is also progressing.
- viii) Diesel Multiple Unit (DMU) factory in JV/PPP mode would be set up at Sankrail.
- ix) New wagon repair shop in Mumbai
- x) Design, development and testing centre for railway wheels at Bangalore.

All these are commendable proposals and are essentially required in the interest of Passengers as well as for faster development of the Nation besides providing for some welfare measures for the Railway men. These are also mostly in line with the "Vision 2020 of Indian Railways" - as defined by the Railway Minister recently. But all these will require funds in a big way. The economy is picking up after some set back due to the impact of the global recession – which India was able to handle much better than most other countries. This is bound to improve the turn-over & revenue earnings of the Railways. But that by itself may not be adequate to fulfill all the big promises projected in the Railway Budget 2010-11 or in the IR Vision 2020.

A concerted effort to improve resources in a big way is required at multiple levels. Dependence on Public Private Partnership (PPP) is not safe for the Railways – especially in some of the proposed areas like construction of new Railway tracks, operation of freight trains and construction of new (modern) Rolling Stock. There is urgent necessity for a budgetary support by the Union Government to provide funds to meet with its social obligations as well as for its expansion and modernisation. Railways must also increase the Freights & Fares – at least in line with the inflation both for its economic health as well as for meeting the goals set forth by it. It has been nearly 7 years since Railways increased its Freights & Fares. It is high time these are revised to a realistic level – in proportion with the inflation.

## IMPROVED MEDICAL FACILITIES & MORE TRAINS FOR CHANDIGARH

Chandigarh and Ambala Cantonment railway stations will have a secondary-level general specialty hospital and a tertiary-level multi-specialty hospital with out-patient departments (OPD) and diagnostic centre. This was declared by Ms Mamata Banerjee in her Budget speech presented recently to the Parliament.

*Duronto train between Chandigarh and Amritsar; city figures on 'tirth train' route.* Chandigarh figured prominently in the Railway Budget presented on Wednesday last. Among others was the proposal to start a Duronto Express - non-stop point-to-point train - between Chandigarh and Amritsar.

Also, Chandigarh will be on the map of the special 'Bharat Tirth' train - via Madurai-Varanasi-Gaya-Patna Sahib-Allahabad-Haridwar-Chandigarh-Kurukshetra-Amritsar-Delhi-Madurai - announced in the budget. The city is also expected to be on the route of the long-distance tri-weekly express train from Una to Haridwar. The budget also included six high speed corridors of 250 to 300 kilometer per hour - Delhi-Chandigarh-Amritsar is one of them.

**Copy of CMD, N.R. letter no. 168-Med/NRMU /Correspondent/09 dated 15.1.2010 to SG RSCWS**

**Sub:- Empanelment of Specialized Private Hospital at Chandigarh, Panchkula & Mohali - Cases of Fortis Hospital, Mohali & Ivy Hospital, Mohali.**

*Ref:- Your Representation No.RSCWS/CHD/Med dt. 22.10.2009 received vide E.D. Health (Plg.) Rly Board. Letter No.2009/EDH/Plg.Misc dt 29.10.2009.*

**Item-wise remarks to the Representation under reference are as follows:-**

1. The following hospitals have been empanelled/recognised over Ambala Division; -  
J.N. Shori Multi-specialty Hospital at Pinjore. Fortis Hospital Mohali. Pruthi Hospital at JUC. Monga Hospital at Ambala
- 2 The Railway Board has accorded sanction for recognition of Fortis Hospital, Mohali in the specialties of Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery only. The proposal for empanelment/recognition of Ivy Hospital Mohali is pending with the Rly. Board for sanction.
3. The following Diagnostic Centers have been recognised/ are under the process of recognition for investigations over Ambala Division;  
Lal Path Pvt. Ltd/DLI at Ambala, Kos Diagnostic Lab at Ambala, Gupta CT Scan Centre at Ambala, Rajeev Ultra Sound Centre at Ambala, K.D. Hospital MRI at Ambala, K.D. Hospital MRI at Ambala, K.D. Hospital CT Scan at Ambala, Jindal Diagnostic Centre at KLK for KLK & CDG, Rana Hospital for X-Ray of KLK for KLK & CDG, Wilaity Ram Memorial Digital X-Ray Centre at BTI, Kanwal lab Diagnostic Centre for Lab. tests, at BTI, National X-Ray Pathology Centre for Lab. tests at SRE, Malhotra Lab Services at CDG - under process for KLK & CDG, Arpit Diagnostic Centre under process for Ultra sound at SRE, Wilaity Ram Memorial Digital X-Ray Centre under process for BTI.
4. With the existing work-load and the available strength of Medical officers and Para-medical Staff, the proposal cannot be agreed to under the present circumstances.
5. Two Honorary Visiting Specialists for Skin and Ultrasound are appointed at Divisional Railway Hospital Ambala. Besides Consultants on a case-to-case basis have been engaged in the specialties of Psychiatry, Gen. Surgery, Orthopaedics and Anesthesiology.

### **One Nonagenarian, 2 Octogenarians & 13 Senior Citizens Honoured in AGM of RSCWS Major Achievements & Activities of RSCWS Highlighted**

A Nonagenarian (Sh Pritam Singh, Patron & Founder RSCWS), 2 Octogenarians (Sh Jagjit Singh, Sh B.R. Bhalla) & 13 Senior Citizens Honoured in the AGM (Annual General Body Meeting) of RSCWS held at Government Museum & Art Gallery, Sector 10, Chandigarh on February 14, 2010. Senior Citizens honoured on the occasion included Sarv Shri B.S. Chawla, D.K. Nagpal, Darshan Singh Bajwa, Gurcharan Singh, Gurnam Singh, J.R. Manchanda, Jaswant Singh, K.D. Joshi, Man Singh, Mohinder Singh, R.C. Joshi, S.S. Kapoor & Ved Parkash Dhingra. AGM started with a melodious song by Shri T. S. Chawla and a patriotic poem by Shri H. S. Sachdeva.

**Secretary General Sh Harchandan Singh presented the Annual Report- highlighting the activities of the Society with the major achievement of the year being sanction of a Heath Unit at Chandigarh, Recognition of Fortis Hospital Mohali by the Railways for Cardiac treatment & Cardiac Surgery after nearly 4 years of efforts – (preceded by the Recognition of PGI & Govt. Hospital 32 in 2005).** He also highlighted that during the year regular quarterly Meetings of General Body were held with four Medical Seminars, one Medical Camp at Fortis Mohali and eight monthly meetings of the Executive Committee. Quarterly journal "*Pensioners' Rail Sampark*" & Website of the Society [www.rscws.com](http://www.rscws.com) had become very popular due to their informative content for the Pensioners – resulting in enrolment of new members from as far off places as Bhubaneshwar (in Orissa) and Karnataka.

Singh further informed that a number of Representations were made during the year at all levels by RSCWS against the injustice meted out to the Pensioners – especially in respect of the disparity between Pre & Post-2006 Pensioners, better Medical Facilities in the region & other related issues. Applications were moved under RTI Act on numerous issues – including in respect of delay in issue of Revised PPOs after Sixth CPC. A detailed Memorandum was also submitted to National Anomalies Committee (NAC). Delegations of RSCWS also met the DRM, CMS / UMB & EDHS / RB to pursue the various pending issues at different levels.

A Seminar on Renal Problems & their Management was held thereafter – followed by inter-action with the Specialists from Ivy Hospital Mohali.

## Reservation on Railway Passes – Revised Guidelines

### **Copy of Railway Board's letter No. 94/TG-I/20/P/14 dated 28.08.2009**

Due to change in system, the issue of seeking reservations on Railway Passes has been under consideration in the Ministry of Railways and it has now been decided that the following procedure should be adopted for providing reservations/cancellations on the Railway Passes:-

i) Pass holders or their representatives should present their passes along with the requisitions duly filled in to the Reservation Clerk who will issue tickets and make endorsement on the face of the pass indicating the train number, date of journey, status of tickets, etc.

ii) Holders of Privilege, Duty, Post Retirement, Complimentary, Metal and other passes may be allowed to seek fresh reservation only if the earlier reservation is cancelled.

iii) In case of confirmed reservation on Privilege, Post retirement, Complimentary and other passes, the pass holder can make maximum three time reservations provided the earlier one has been cancelled before chart preparation. If the confirmed reservation is not cancelled before preparation of charts, the pass will be treated as used. In exceptional cases, discretionary powers for allowing reservation on such passes only once can be delegated to a JA Grade level officer. At Divisional level, where any JA grade level Commercial officer is not available, the next senior most Commercial Officer may be delegated these powers.

iv) There will be no restriction in number of cancellations in case of Duty Pass, Metal Pass and in case of tickets having a status of fully/partially Waiting List (at the time of cancellation) against Privilege, Post Retirement and Complimentary passes. However, fresh reservation will be given only after the earlier one has been cancelled within the normal prescribed time limits. v) Telephonic requests for reservation and cancellation will not be entertained.

vi) The portion of break journey will be treated as separate journey i.e. instructions contained at para (iii) and (iv) will be applicable for each leg of journey separately.

vii) It will be the responsibility of officer/staff making reservation on Metal/Duty Passes to ensure that between the same stations and on the same date, reservation should not be made in two separate trains.

## **PUNJAB ALLOWS PARITY BETWEEN PRE & POST-2006 PENSIONERS**

### **Copy of Government of Punjab Notification No.3/39/09-3FPPC/201 dated 22-2-2010**

**Subject: Implementation of the recommendations of the Fifth Punjab Pay Commission-Revision of Pension of pre 01-01-2006 pensioners/family pensioners/recipients of extraordinary pension etc.**

In partial modification of Government letter No. 3/23/09-3FPPC/885 dated 17-8-2009 on the subject cited above, I am directed to say that the Governor of Punjab is pleased to decide that the benefit of fixation of revised pension envisaged in para 4.2 of the aforesaid letter will be subject to the condition that full pension, in no case shall be less than 50% of the initial pay shown in column 8 of the schedule of the Punjab Civil Services (Revised Pay) Rules, 2009, against relevant Pay Band and Grade Pay corresponding to the pre-revised scale of pay in which the pensioner had last worked. However, such pension will be suitably reduced pro-rata, where the qualifying service of the person falls short of 33 years.

2. The Governor of Punjab is pleased to decide further that the benefit of fixation of revised pension envisaged in para 4.2 of the aforesaid letter will be available for fixation of family pension also subject to the condition that the revised family pension, in no case, shall be lower than thirty percent of the initial pay shown in column 8 of the Schedule of the Punjab Civil Services (Revised Pay) Rules, 2009, against relevant Pay Band and Grade Pay corresponding to the pre-revised scale or pay in which the pensioner/deceased employee had last worked.

3. A table of revised pension/family pension based on Pay Band, Grade Pay, and Initial Pay effective from 1.1.2006 corresponding to the pre-revised scales of pay is enclosed herewith as Annexure-A to facilitate the Payment of revised pension/family pension in all cases where fixation of pension/family pension is more beneficial in terms of the provision of para 4.2 as mentioned above.

4. It shall be the responsibility of the Head of Office/Department from which the Government employee had retired or was working last before his death to inform the Pension Disbursing Authority/Bank about the Pay Band and Grade Pay and Initial Pay corresponding to the pre-revised scale of pay in which the pensioner/deceased employee had last worked. This information will be provided within two weeks of the date of receipt of request from the Pension Disbursing Authority/Bank or the concerned person.

5. Further, the words and expressions, namely, "Table showing existing Basic Pension/ Family Pension without Dearness Pension/ Family Pension (column 1), Basic Pension/Family Pension with Dearness Pension/Family Dearness Pension (Column 2) and Revised Consolidated Pension/Family Pension (Column 3)" mentioned on page 10 of the communication under reference shall be deleted from there and will be deemed to have been inserted in the form of a heading on page 9 thereof above the words and expressions, "Annexure-I".

6. The existing Annexure-II, referred to in para II of the letter under reference is hereby substituted with a revised Annexure-II as enclosed herewith. On receipt of Annexure-II, duly authenticated by the Pension Disbursing Authority, the Accountant General, Punjab and District Treasury Officers/ Treasury Officers will update their records and the Accountant General, Punjab will also check correctness of the revised pension/family pension.

7. The decisions contained in this letter shall be effective from 01-01-2006. However, the decision regarding payment of arrears of pension/family pension from 1.1.2006 to 31.7.2009 will be taken in due course. The other conditions mentioned in the letter under reference shall remain the same.

### Replies received to Queries made by RSCWS through RTI

QUERIES	REPLIES
1. a) What were the reasons given by the Sixth Pay Commission for adopting & recommending the system of Pay Bands & Grade Pay in preference to the existing system of Pay Scales? Please give Reference thereof.	The principles of pay determination and pay scales/pay structure and fixation have been given by the 6 <sup>th</sup> CPC in chapter 2 of the Report. The Report of the Pay Commission is posted on the web site of the 6 <sup>th</sup> CPC.
b) i) What were the reasons for the Government to accept these recommendations of the Sixth Pay commissions and adopting the system of Pay Bands & Grade Pay instead of the existing system of Pay scales – adopted by all the previous Pay Commissions?	As per section 2(f) read with Section 2(j) of the RTI Act, 2005, the public authority can only provide information which is available in any material form. Hence the Act does not require the public authority to deduce some conclusions from the 'material' held and supply the 'conclusion' so deduced to the applicant. Accordingly, the queries raised by the applicant need not be responded under the RTI Act, 2005.
c) Sixth Pay commission had grouped S-31 and S-32 in Pay Band 4 along with other scales. Why were these two scales removed from PB 4 and given separate scale of HAG+ at the time of acceptance / implementation of the report? d) Why S-30 has been removed from PB-4 and given a separate scale HAG with substantial improvement in Pay? e) Copies of the related noting of MoF (regarding Queries at Sl. No. "a" to "d" above). Reference of paras of the Report of Sixth CPC and copies of "Empowered Committee" thereon may please be supplied.	As per section 2(f) read with Section 2(j) of the RTI Act, 2005, the public authority can only provide information which is available in any material form. Hence the Act does not require the public authority to deduce some conclusions from the 'material' held and supply the 'conclusion' so deduced to the applicant. Accordingly, the queries raised by the applicant need not be responded under the RTI Act, 2005.
2. a) Has any comparison been made either by the "Empowered Committee" on Sixth CPC or by the Government / Ministry of Finance, about the comparative % age rise of wages or Pay at Minimum, Maximum or average level of various pre-revised Pay Scales? b) If so, copy/copies of the said comparison may please be supplied.	As per section 2(f) read with Section 2(j) of the RTI Act, 2005, the public authority can only provide information which is available in any material form. Hence the Act does not require the public authority to deduce some conclusions from the 'material' held and supply the 'conclusion' so deduced to the applicant. Accordingly, the queries raised by the applicant need not be responded under the RTI Act, 2005.
3. a) Is the Ministry of Finance / GOI aware that the % age rise of minimum Pay varies from 32 to 45 % in Scales from S-4 to S-23 but is as high as 59 to 81 % in Scales S-24 to S-34 (as apparent from the attached Annexure I). b) What are the reasons for such a vast difference in Pay rise at various levels?	As per section 2(f) read with Section 2(j) of the RTI Act, 2005, the public authority can only provide information which is available in any material form. Hence the Act does not require the public authority to deduce some conclusions from the 'material' held and supply the 'conclusion' so deduced to the applicant. Accordingly, the queries raised by the applicant need not be responded under the RTI Act, 2005.
4. Principle of Modified Parity in pension was evolved by 5 <sup>th</sup> CPC which was conceded by 6 <sup>th</sup> CPC and recommendations made in para 5.1.47 accordingly. These recommendations were accepted by the UNION CABINET vide resolution of 29-8-2008. Why has the modified parity denied by issue of so called "Clarification" or modifications vide DOP OM of 3/10/2008.	The modified parity as recommended by the pay Commission has been provided in para 4.2 of OM dated 1.9.2008 as clarified vide OM dated 3.10.2008. <span style="float: right;"><b>(Continued)</b></span>

**Replies received to Queries made by RSCWS through RTI (Continued)**

QUERIES	REPLIES
<p>5. "Pay in the Pay Band" and "basic pay" in the revised pay structure are defined under sub-rule (5) and (7) of Rule 3 of CCS (Revised Pay) Rules, 2008 notified by MoF (DoE) vide NOTIFICATION dated 29<sup>th</sup> August, 2008.</p> <p>- a) Do the above definitions apply equally to serving employees and pensioners?</p> <p>- b) If so then why a homogenous class of pensioners has been divided into two classes of pre and post-2006 pensioners by adopting different method for calculation of pension namely "minimum of pay band" in the case of Pre 2006 Pensioners and "pay in the pay band" in the case of Post 2006 Pensioners.(annexure of DOP OM of 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2008)</p>	<p>The definitions of 'Pay' and 'basic pay' in the CCS (Revised) Rules, 2008 are applicable in respect of the provisions of those rules only. The term 'minimum of pay in the pay band' for the purpose of revision of pension of pre-2006 pensioners has been clarified in the OM dated 3.10.2008. This CPIO has no further information to give under the provisions of RTI Act.</p>
<p>6. Based on the recommendations of the Committee of Secretaries headed by the Cabinet Secretary on "One Rank One Pension", the Government (vide Notification GSR 527(E) dated 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2009) have prescribed a separate scale for S-30 (earlier it was in PB-4 along with S-24 to S-29) and have thus removed the disparity of Pre &amp; Post-2006 pensioners in the scale S-30 in the same way as was done for scales S-31 &amp; S-32 at the time of acceptance of report and thus restored Modified Parity in their case.</p> <p>a) What are the reasons for denying the application of the same principle to the pensioners in scales S-4 to S-29?</p> <p>b) This is tantamount to discrimination in the shape of less Pensions to Pre-2006 Pensioners in scales S-4 to S-29 - as will be seen from the <u>Annexure II attached</u>.</p> <p>- What are the reasons for this discrimination?</p>	<p>As per section 2(f) read with Section 2(j) of the RTI Act, 2005, the public authority can only provide information which is available in any material form. Hence the Act does not require the public authority to deduce some conclusions from the 'material' held and supply the 'conclusion' so deduced to the applicant. Accordingly, the queries raised by the applicant need not be responded under the RTI Act, 2005.</p>
<p>c) Is the Government considering removing this disparity?</p> <p>d) If so, what are the proposals under consideration?</p>	<p><u>No reply received.</u></p>
<p>7. A large number of representations were made by Pre-2006 pensioners and their associations after the clarifications/modifications issued by DOP OM of 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2008 which were totally in contravention to the recommendations in Para 5.1.47 of 6<sup>th</sup> CPC Report and accepted by Cabinet in toto vide Resolution dated 29<sup>th</sup> August, 2008. DOP sent a proposal to DOE for revised modified parity vide their noting of 21/10/08 followed by reminders of 2/12/08, 17/12/08 and 02/01/09. This was also reiterated in MOS(PP) letter to MOS(F) on 19/1/09. The proposal of DOP was turned down by DOE on 27/1/09 with the approval of Secretary Expenditure on the grounds of substantial financial implications.</p> <p>a). i) What would have been the financial implications thereof which prevented the Government in this regard?</p>	<p>This Department (DOP) had assessed financial implications of Rs. 228.56 crores per annum (approx) on the proposal contained in the note dated 21.10.2008.</p>
<p>ii) What are the financial implications of assigning HAG+ scale of Rs.77500-80000 for S 31 &amp; S 32 which were a part of PB 4 as per the report?</p> <p>iii) What are the financial implications of assigning HAG scale of Rs.67000-79000 for S 30 which was a part of PB 4 as per the report?</p>	<p>There is no information available in material form with this Department as asked for by the applicant.</p>
<p>b) Is the revised proposal of DOP of 21/10/08 different from what had been recommended in para 5.1.47 of the report and accepted by the Cabinet.</p>	<p align="center">Yes</p>
<p>c) Pay for the purposes of pension is the same in both the above cases i.e. Pay in the pay band corresponding to the minimum basic pay in pre-revised scale of pay. This being so, how extra financial implications are involved over and above that is contained in the Report when there is no departure from the recommendations?</p>	<p>It is the applicant's own interpretation that "pay for the purposes of pension is the same in both the above cases i.e. pay in the pay band corresponding to the minimum basic pay in the pre-revised scale of pay". Therefore, this CPIO has no further information to give on this query.</p>
<p>d) Pre-revised pay scales from S-24 to S-27 included in PB-3 have been upgraded from PB-3 to PB-4 while accepting the Report. What are the financial implications of this change which is of a recurring nature?</p>	<p>AS PER DOP – REPLY WAS TO BE GIVEN BY MOF (DOE), BUT NO REPLY HAS AS YET BEEN RECEIVED.</p>
<p align="center"><b>OBITUARY! With profound grief &amp; sorrow we inform our Members about the sad demise of Shri Amrik Singh, Ex- PA to CME RCF, Kapurthala &amp; Life Member &amp; Executive Committee Member of the RSCWS. - SG, RSCWS</b></p>	
<p align="center"><b>OBITUARY! With profound grief &amp; sorrow we inform our Members about the sad demise of Shri Harmohinder Singh (Ex-Guard) , Member of the RSCWS. - SG, RSCWS</b></p>	

## LIST OF DONORS– RSCWS – JANUARY, 2008 TO MARCH, 2010

Sl. No.	Name	Amt. Rs	Sl. No.	Name	Amt. Rs	Sl. No.	Name	Amt. Rs
<b>LIST OF DONORS– RSCWS 2008</b>				AVTAR KRISHAN SUD	500	31.	KHEM SINGH	500
1.	S.S. SAHOTA	200	45.	JOGINDER PARKASH	500	33.	SMT. S. L. MOHANTI	100
2.	HARCHANDAN SINGH	200	46.	CP SINGH	100	34.	ARUN KUMAR	150
3.	SUKHDEV SINGH	200	47.	C. S. CHAWLA	200	35.	JARNAIL SINGH GILL	500
4.	JASWANT SINGH	200	48.	O. S. DOGRA	100	36.	G. K. GAUDA	200
5.	M.S. BATRA	200	49.	KHURANA	500	37.	N. C. BISWAS	200
6.	MAN SINGH SETHI	100	50.	M. JAI KUMAR (Karnataka)	50	38.	J. M. BHANJA	200
7.	H. D. SHARMA	100	51.	DAVID PARKASH (do)	50	39.	DURAI SWAMI C.	100
8.	KAPIL DEV PASRICHA	100	52.	J. GANESH (do)	50	40.	SINHA ADHIKARI	200
9.	AVTAR SINGH	100	53.	U. BHASKARAN (do)	50	41.	GAURANGA BEHORA	200
10.	M.S. BHALLA	100	54.	C. DURAISWAMI (do)	50	42.	P.K. BISWAS	200
11.	HARBANS SINGH	100	55.	S. S. RANJAN (do)	50	43.	G. N. RAO	200
12.	K.S. BHANDARI	500	<b>Total Donations 2008 Rs 17550</b>			44.	M.J. KUMAR	100
13.	BIPIN BEHARI LAL	150	<b>LIST OF DONORS– RSCWS - 2009</b>			45.	J.S. SOHAL	500
14.	N.P. MOHAN	500	1.	SUKHDEV SINGH	500	<b>Total Donations 2009</b>		<b>16250</b>
15.	BIPIN BEHARI LAL	100	2.	JASWANT SINGH	500	<b>LIST OF DONORS – RSCWS - 2010</b>		
16.	BIPIN BEHARI LAL	100	3.	AVTAR SINGH	500	1.	Rly Pens Assn Karnataka	<b>2000</b>
17.	HARCHANDAN SINGH	200	4.	H.D. SHARMA	500	2.	S.S. SAHOTA	2500
18.	BIPIN BEHARI LAL	100	5.	BIPIN BEHARI LAL	500	3.	O.S. DOGRA	1000
19.	T.S. CHAWLA	100	6.	HARMOHINDER SINGH	500	4.	PIARA SINGH	300
20.	M.S. BATRA	500	7.	SHADI LAL	300	5.	GURDARSHAN SINGH	500
21.	HARCHANDAN SINGH	500	8.	JADGDISH KUMAR MAGO	500	6.	SADHU SINGH	500
22.	KAPIL DEV PASRICHA	500	9.	BAHADUR SINGH ARSHI	500	7.	JOGINDER PARKASH	500
23.	J. S. MANN	500	10.	TRILOK SINGH REYAT	500	8.	MANGE RAM CHAUDHARY	500
24.	C. L. CHAWLA	500	11.	MAST RAM	500	9.	SOHAN LAL	500
25.	B. B. SHARMA	500	12.	JAGIR SINGH	500	10.	JAGIR SINGH	300
26.	P. K. SINGH	100	13.	AVTAR SINGH	200	11.	J.S. MANN	500
27.	PIARA SINGH	300	14.	M.P. SINGH	500	12.	SATYA PARKASH MAINI	500
28.	ATMA SINGH	500	15.	O.S. DOGRA	500	13.	TARLOK SINGH TULI	300
29.	O. S. DOGRA	1000	16.	MANMOHAN SINGH	200	14.	HARCHARAN SINGH	500
30.	MAN SINGH	500	17.	MOHAN SINGH	100	<b>Total till March, 2010</b>		<b>10400</b>
31.	INDERJIT SINGH	500	18.	INDER JIT SINGH	500	<p align="center"><b>ALL MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO DONATE Rs. 500 EACH TO CORPUS FUND OF RSCWS FOR COTINUOUS PURSUANCE OF THE CAUSE OF PENSIONERS &amp; OTHER SENIOR CITIZENS</b></p> <p align="center"><b>NEWS FLASH</b></p> <p align="center"><b>8 % hike in Dearness Allowance for Central Govt. Employees &amp; Pensioners - Raising DA from 27% to 35% - with effect from 1.1.2010</b></p>		
32.	GURGIAN SINGH	200	19.	KAPIL DEV PASRICHA	200			
33.	UJAGAR SINGH	500	20.	K.S. BHANDARI	200			
34.	BIPIN BEHARI LAL	100	21.	JASWANT SINGH	300			
35.	SURINDER SINGH	1000	22.	G. S. SETHI	1000			
36.	S. S. SAHOTA	1000	23.	O.S. DOGRA	1000			
37.	BANSI LAL GUPTA	1000	24.	GUR GIAN SINGH BIRDIE	500			
38.	M. S. BHALLA	500	25.	PRABH KIRPAL SINGH	400			
39.	BAKHTAWAR SINGH	500	26.	GURDEV SINGH	500			
40.	Sohan Lal	200	27.	M.L. DUDEJA	500			
41.	BIPIN BEHARI LAL	100	28.	GURCHARAN SINGH	500			
42.	PARKASH CHAND	500	29.	A.D. SEHGAL	500			
43.	V. P. DHINGRA	500	30.	S.S. SAHOTA	200			

**Provision of companion in lieu of attendant to First Class/1st 'A' Post-Retirement Complimentary Pass/Widow Pass holders who are of 70 years of age and above**

*Copy of Railway Board's letter No. E (W) 96 PS 5-8/2 dated 09-09-2009 (RBE No. 164/2009)*

In terms of the provisions contained in Schedule-IV (Post Retirement Complimentary Pass) & Schedule-V (Widow Pass) of the Railway Servants (Pass) Rules, 1986 (Second Edition, 1993), retired Railway employees/Widows of 65 years of age and above entitled to 1st Class/1st 'A' Post Retirement Complimentary/Widow Passes, are entitled to the facility of companion in higher class on payment of full difference of fare between Sleeper Class/II Class and the class in which the retired Railway employee / Widow in all trains other than Rajdhani / Shatabdi trains travels, subject to the conditions laid down in the said Pass Rules.

2. On receipt of a demand from certain retired Railway employees for permitting companion in the same higher class in which the First Class / 1<sup>st</sup> 'A' Post Retirement Complimentary/Widow Pass holder travels, without payment of difference of fare, the matter has been considered carefully by the Board and it has been decided that retired Railway employees/Widows of 70 years of age and above, who are entitled to 1<sup>st</sup> Class/1<sup>st</sup> 'A' Post Retirement Complimentary/Widow Passes may be allowed to take a companion in the same class by paying 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the difference of fare between Sleeper Class/II Class and the higher class in which the retired Railway employee/Widow travels in all trains, including Rajdhani/Shatabdi trains, Subject to the existing restriction regarding number of berths in Rajdhani/Shatabdi trains.

3. The facility of companion to such retired Railway employees/Widows who are of 70 years of age and above as indicated above, will be subject to the condition that the pass holder is not accompanied by any other member of his/her family who is below 70 years of age. In other words, if any member of his/her family is below 70 years of age and he/she travels along with the pass holder, the facility of companion in the same class by paying 1/3<sup>rd</sup> difference of fare between Sleeper Class/II Class and the higher class shall not be available.

4. At the time of application for Post Retirement Complimentary/Widow Pass, the retired Railway employees/Widows of 70 years of age and above, who are entitled to 1st Class/1<sup>st</sup> 'A' Post Retirement Complimentary / Widow Pass, shall exercise option regarding facility of companion being availed and in addition to the endorsement, as enclosed, being made on their Pass, stamp regarding their entitlement to the number of berth(s) in Rajdhani/Shatabdi trains shall also be made.

5. Accordingly, in exercise of the powers conferred by the proviso to Article 309 of the Constitution, the President is pleased to direct that Schedules IV & V of the **Railway Servants (Pass) Rules, 1986 (Second Edition, 1993)** shall be amended as in the ACS No. 66 enclosed.

**PRS CODE: TO AVAIL THIS CONCESSION AT PRS CENTRE Code = RRECOM**

*{Note it is located at S.No 171 in the list of codes available in PRS computers} – (Courtesy RREWA)*

**Legal remedies sought for justice to Pre-2006 Pensioners**

In implementing the orders of accepted recommendations of 6<sup>th</sup> CPC by Cabinet, the pension of Pre-2006 pensioners had been fixed at a lower rate denying even the modified parity. All representations to Govt. have been summarily rejected resulting in seeking of legal remedy as detailed below:

Central Govt. SAG (S-29) Pensioners' Association, New Delhi comprising about 450 pensioners (Pre-2006) from various central Services like Railways, CPWD, DOT, GSI, DRDO etc. have filed an application (OA 655/2010) in Principal CAT, New Delhi, which has been admitted on 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2010. The applicants have demanded modified parity as per accepted recommendations of 6<sup>th</sup> CPC and the hearing is fixed on 9<sup>th</sup> April, 2010.

Associations of pensioners of IAS/IPS/IFS from UP have filed a petition in Lucknow High Court which is listed for hearing on 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2010. Four applications from different Central Govt. pensioners are before the Principal CAT, New Delhi, which have clubbed together for hearing. Pensioners from PWD and HSEB have filed two different Writ Petitions in Punjab and Haryana High Court.

**Visit our website [www.rscws.com](http://www.rscws.com) regularly for Administrative Orders, information of Activities of RSCWS & Multifarious Features of interest of Pensioners & other Senior Citizens**

**MEMBERS! PLEASE PAY YOUR SUBSCRIPTION FOR 2010 EARLY @ Rs. 200 PA**

**DONATIONS & SUBSCRIPTIONS MAY PLEASE BE SENT BY CHEQUE IN FAVOUR OF -**

**"RAILWAY SENIOR CITIZENS WELFARE SOCIETY" – OR MAY BE PAID IN CASH DIRECTLY TO –**

**Sh. K. S. BHANDARI, TREASURER, RSCWS, 3098, SECTOR 22-D, CHANDIGARH (PH. 2711641 & 9815012641).**

**Secretary General, RSCWS**

**NOTICE: GENERAL BODY MEETING OF RAILWAY SENIOR CITIZENS WELFARE SOCIETY (RSCWS)**

**SHALL BE HELD ON SUNDAY, 25<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2010 FROM 4 TO 6 PM,**

**AT GOVERNMENT MUSEUM & ART GALLERY, AUDITORIUM, SECTOR 10, CHANDIGARH**

**MEMBERS OF RSCWS ARE REQUESTED TO PLEASE ATTEND POSITIVELY**

**ALONG WITH THEIR SPOUSES & OTHER SENIOR CITIZENS OF RAILWAYS**

**MEDICAL SEMINAR ON GASTROENTERITIS, CULTURAL PROGRAMME & INTER-ACTION BETWEEN MEMBER SHALL BE HELD**

**TEA & REFRESHMENTS SHALL BE SERVED AFTER THE MEETING**

**- Secretary General, RSCWS**

*If undelivered, please return to:*

**RAILWAY SENIOR CITIZENS WELFARE SOCIETY  
Hd. Off. # 32, Phase 6, Mohali (Chandigarh) – 160055**

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