

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
FINANCE DEPARTMENT
PENSION BRANCH
Hemanta Bhavan (Top Floor)
12, B. B. D. Bag (East), Calcutta-700 001.

No. 1127-F (Pen.)

Calcutta, the 27th October, 1998.

MEMORANDUM

Sub: Revision of Pensionary Benefits of State Government employees Consequent on the revision of pay.

The undersigned is directed to state that the question of modification of rules granting pensionary benefits to the State Government employees consequent on the revision of pay under the West Bengal Services (Revision of Pay and Allowance) Rules, 1998 has been under consideration of Government. After careful consideration of the matter, the Governor has been pleased to decide that the pensionary benefits in respect of the State Government employees who retire after coming into force of the West Bengal Services (Revision of Pay and Allowance) Rules, 1998 and whose pay has been fixed under the said rules actually or in whose favour such revised pay has been allowed notionally shall be determined as follows:

- i) Pension shall continue to be calculated at the rate of 50% of last drawn "emoluments" as defined in Rule 7(1) (d) of the West Bengal Services (Death- cum-Retirement Benefit) Rules, 1971 with proportionate reduction for less than 33 years of qualifying service as at present.
- ii) The existing minimum amount of monthly pension/family pension of Rs. 400/- (Rupees four hundred only) per month as laid down in Memo No. 1066-F (Pen) dt. 2.6.92 shall be raised to Rs. 1,300 (Rupees one thousand three hundred only) per month.
- iii) The existing maximum amount of monthly pension of Rs.3,650 (Rupees three thousand six hundred fifty only) per month as laid down in Memo No. 4055- F, dt. 25.4.90 shall be raised to Rs. 11,200/- (Rupees eleven thousand two hundred only) per month.
- iv) Family pension shall be calculated @ 30% of the pay drawn last actually or notionally under WBS (ROPA) Rules '98 instead of being determined by pay ranges as shown in para (viii) of Memo No. 7530-F, dt.6.7.88. The maximum ceiling of family pension of Rs. 1,000/- (Rupees one thousand only) per month as laid down in Memo No.4055-F, dt.25.4.90 shall be raised to Rs. 6,720/- (Rupees six thousand seven hundred and twenty only) per month at normal rate. However, the existing provision for calculation of family pension at enhanced rate for a specific period will continue.
- v) The maximum amount of Death/Retiring Gratuity of Rs.2,00,000/- (Rupees two lakhs only) as laid down in Memo No. 1465-F(Pen) dt. 15.11.95 shall be raised to Rs. 2.5 lakhs (Rupees two lakhs fifty thousand only). While calculating the amount of death/retiring gratuity, Dearness Allowance drawn immediately before death/retirement shall be taken into account in addition to existing emoluments as defined in Rule 7(1) (d) of the West Bengal Services (Death-cum-Retirement Benefit) Rules, 1971.
- vi) The maximum amount of pension that can be commuted as per Rule 5(2) of the West Bengal Services (Commutation of Pension) Rules, 1983 shall be raised to 40% of the amount of pension. Other provisions in the said rules will however continue.
The time limit of 15 years from date of retirement for restoration of commuted portion of pension will remain unchanged.
- vii) State Government employees who retired during the period from 1.1.96 to 31.3.97 are also entitled to have their pensionary benefits revised notionally on the basis of revised pay fixed notionally in terms of the West Bengal Services (Revision of Pay and Allowance) Rules, 1998 for the period prior to 1.4.97. They shall not get any arrears representing the difference between revised pension and existing pension for the period upto 31.3.97. They shall continue to draw the existing amount of pension which was fixed without taking into

account the benefit of notional fixation of pay upto 31.3.97. They shall get actual payment of revised pensionary benefits i.e. pension, death/retiring gratuity and family pension arrived at on the basis of "emoluments" allowed notionally as a special case. In their cases pensionary benefits shall be calculated on the basis of notional pay fixed under West Bengal Services (Revision of Pay and Allowance) Rules, 1998 and on the basis of certificate of notional "emoluments" (in lieu of pay certificate) to be issued by the respective pension sanctioning authority on the date of retirement/death based on initial notional pay, as a special case and in relaxation of normal rules. The Principal Accountant General will issue authority for payment of revised pensionary benefits w.e.f. 1.4.97 onwards on the basis of certificate of notional "emoluments" as stated above without insisting on issuing of Pay Certificate. The pension sanctioning authority will prepare pension papers in those cases as usual on the basis of notional "emoluments" and submit the same to the Principal Accountant General, West Bengal for issue of authority for payment of pensionary benefits at revised rate as stated in this order. In the cases of State Government employees who are already in receipt of pension, the pension sanctioning authority in their cases, will send previous pension papers along with Service Book, certificate of notional "emoluments", revised calculation sheet showing the calculation of revised pensionary benefits and application, if submitted, for further commutation of pension as mentioned in para (viii). The Principal Accountant General, West Bengal will authorise payment of pensionary benefits at revised rate accordingly to the pension disbursing officer, concerned. The amount of gratuity, if any, paid earlier in respect of employees of this category according to the rules prevailing at the material time of employees of this category according to the rules prevailing at the material time will be adjusted against the revised gratuity calculated on the basis of notional "emoluments" now authorised by the Principal Accountant General, West Bengal on the basis of this order. In the cases of pensioners who are otherwise eligible to have their pay fixed notionally under West Bengal Services (Revision of Pay and Allowance) Rule, 1998 and who died on any date before or after being eligible to get actual payment of revised pension and gratuity determined on the basis of notional "emoluments" pension/family pension and gratuity in respect of them shall also be determined as stated above and Life Arrears of such benefits w.e.f. 1.4.97 shall be paid to the nominee(s)/legal heir(s)/family members as usual after adjustment of the amount already paid on this account earlier.

- viii) The pensioners who have already commuted a portion of their pension not exceeding one-third of pension without medical examination are also entitled to commute, if they so desire, the difference between 40% of revised pension and the amount of pension already commuted without medical examination provided they did not mention specific amount in the application for commutation of pension submitted previously. They are required to submit an application in plain paper for further commutation of pension as stated above to respective pension sanctioning authority. The Principal Accountant General (A&E), West Bengal will issue authority for payment of commuted value of pension as stated above on the basis of application of the pensioner received from the pension sanctioning authority. The commutation in such cases shall become absolute on the date from which pension has been revised. In other cases, where the pensioner mentions the specific amount in the application for commutation of pension submitted previously, he/she will have to apply afresh in the prescribed form and in his/her case commutation of pension will become absolute from the date of application as per existing rules.
- ix) The relevant rules in the West Bengal Services (Death-cum-Retirement Benefit) Rules, 1971 and West Bengal Services (Commutation of Pension) Rules, 1983 shall be deemed to have been amended to the extent indicated in these orders. Formal amendments to the said Rules will be made in due course.

Sd/- ASOK GUPTA

Principal Secretary to the
Government of West Bengal
Finance Department.