

Dear Member

It gives me great pleasure in presenting the General Secretary's report in this 10th Annual General Meeting of SROWA, today the 8th October 2017.

At the outset I assure the members that SROWA is committed to do all it can to resolve long pending issues like revision of pension under CMPS 1998, Performance Related Pay (PRP) & Superannuation Benefits (For those of us retired after 01.01.2017) and streamlining Post-retirement medical benefits Scheme (CPRMSE) etc.

Since the last AGM held on 4th December 2016, SROWA has taken several steps for resolving above mentioned issues. The efforts put in are briefly narrated below:

I. Representations by SROWA

1. The executive body headed by President, SROWA met SRI S. Narasinga Rao, Principal Secretary to CM, Govt Of Telangana,(Ex C&MD of SCCL and CIL) on 12.01.2017 and discussed with him regarding pensions issue of retired employees of coal mining companies. A representation was submitted dated 12.01.2017

2. A representation dated 02.06.2017 (in telugu) was submitted to the Hon'ble CM on early release of PRP payment for the serving executives and eligible retired executives.

3. A representation dated 12.01.2017 was submitted to the Hon'ble CM seeking his intervention in resolving the CMPS 1998 pension issue.

4. A representation dated 27.05.2017 was submitted to Hon'ble CM on PRP issue.

5. An appeal dated 19.05.2017 was made to CMOAI-Apex seeking their support for the CMPS 1998 pension issue.

6. A representation dated 27.07.2017 was submitted to the Hon'ble minister for Coal Sri.Piyush Goyal to intervene in the issue of payment of PRP to the serving and retired executives of SCCL in line with CIL.

7. A representation dated 28.07.2017 was sent to Secretary, Coal, Government of India requesting his good offices in resolving the long pending issue of payment of PRP to the executives of SCCL.

8. A representation dated 02.01.2017 was submitted to the Hon'ble MLA, Sri.Kishan Reddy, floor leader, BJP on the pension issue.

9. A petition dated 27.07.2017 was submitted to the Hon'ble Chief Justice, High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad For the state of Telangana and state of Andhra Pradesh on the pension issue seeking his directions to the coal ministry (A letter dated 31.08.2017 was received from the Administrative Officer, Office of the Telangana State Legal Services Authority addressed to the Secretary , High Court Legal Services Committee for necessary action at their end).

II. Efforts through RTI Act, 2005

1. Application Dt.19.12.2016 to CPIO, Coal India Limited on payment of PRP
2. Application Dt.21.07.2017 to CPIO, Coal India Limited on CPRMSE
3. Application Dt.21.01.2017 to CPIO, CMPFO, Dhanbad on government contribution to CMPS 1998 scheme.
4. Application Dt.17.07.2017 to CPIO, CMPFO, Dhanbad on withdrawal of clauses 15 (1) (b) and 15 (1) (c) of CMPS 1998 scheme.
5. Application Dt.14.09.2017 to CPIO, CMPFO, Dhanbad on copy of Gazette notification withdrawing the clauses 15 (1) (b) and 15 (1) (c) of CMPS 1998 scheme.
6. Application Dt.19.01.2017 to PIO, SCCL on the funds earmarked for CPRMSE
7. Application Dt.27.09.2017 to CPIO, Energy Department, government of Telangana on PRP

III. Writ Petitions pending on CMPS 1998 issues

1. W.P. (C) - 3118/2015 pending in Delhi High Court

Main Prayer: 1) To declare the impugned pension scheme, viz., CMPS 1998, without revision of pension since inception, i.e., in 1998 with effect from 01.04.1994 and as existing in its application to the Petitioners and the payment of pension to them as discriminatory, arbitrary and unconstitutional.

2) To issue a writ in nature of Mandamus and/or such other writ or direction or directions to command the Respondents to undertake the revision of the pension scheme by providing upward enhancement of the pensionary benefits payable under CMPS 1998 and further, direct the Respondents to pay pension on the basis of revision with all arrears with effect from 2001 when the first revision became due under clause 22 of the scheme and thereafter, upon expiry of every three years.

3) To issue a writ of mandamus or any other appropriate writ or order or direction, directing the respondents to revise the pension scheme so that no old retiree of the Coal Industry would get less than 50% of the pension which a new retiree gets after retirement from the same post/grade.

Next hearing: 13.10.2017

2. W.P.No.17587 of 2012 in the High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad For the state of Telangana and state of Andhra Pradesh

Main Prayer: 1) Declare the action of the respondent in treating deletion of para 15 (1) (b) and 15 (1) (c) of CMPS 1998 as retrospective as illegal and arbitrary and set aside the office order No.17/11 and 18/11 dated 04.03.2011 and 21/11 dated 11.03.2011 issued by the 2nd respondent insofar as applying the same retrospectively.

2) consequently direct the respondents to settle all the pensionary benefits of the members of the petitioner No.1 association as per the CMPS 1998 and ignoring the deletion of para 15 (1) (b) and 15 (1) (c) of CMPS 1998

Next hearing: In the recent meeting with the Advocate Sri.Vasudeva Reddy, it was learnt that because of the large number of cases our WP is not coming to the bench.

I request the members especially with legal qualifications and those practising at the High Court to study the cases thoroughly and advise the management committee of SROWA on the best course of action to be taken including filing a fresh WP in the High Court of Telangana. Financial help will be sought from CMOAI-SCCL as the issue concerns the serving executives also.

I further request members to give their concrete views on forming a legal cell comprising members with legal qualifications and those practising at the High Court who can spare enough time to assist MC.

IV. All India Association of Coal Executives (AIACE)

Since the time (June/July 2016) an online petition was started on www.change.org appealing to the Prime Minister of India on revision of pension under CMPS 1998, AIACE had been supporting our activities. We have organised several joint meetings and met the Commissioner CMPF in December 2016. AIACE is registered under Trade Union Act and represents the serving and retired executives of CIL/SCCL and NLC. As all of you are aware CMOAI-Apex is not active while CMOAI-SCCL is active after their recent elections. Time and again the convenor, AIACE (which has a membership of around 430), Sri.P.K.Singh Rathod is requesting SROWA to appeal to its members to become members of AIACE.

Members are requested to consider the request and become members of AIACE for taking up our issues at national level.

V. Our website: www.srowa.org and social media

SROWA is putting lot of efforts to disseminate information about various issues concerning retired executives of Indian coal mining industry. It is appealed to members to actively involve and share their views on topics of common interest on the website and the groups in Facebook and WhatsApp.

VI. Way Forward:

1. Membership drive: In spite of regular follow up the membership of SROWA is about 540 as on date though there are more than 1100 retired executives of SCCL. Members are requested to take up with their friends (retired executives of SCCL) to make them life members of the association.

2. SROWA continues to take up the pending issues with people's representatives, government officials, SCCL, CMPFO and judiciary until the issues are resolved.

3. As regards CPRMSE, our association would take up with SCCL to make the scheme more efficient and hassle free.

4. As regards PRP, it is reliably learnt that government of Telangana is taking steps for early resolving of the issue. However SROWA would continue its efforts till the issue is resolved.

5. As regards Superannuation Benefits (9.8% of the Basic+DA) for those who have retired after 01.01.2007, it is learnt that CIL is yet to issue implementation circular. SROWA would take up the issue with SCCL.

A copy of The Annual Accounts for 2016-17 together with Audit report is attached.

Wishing you all a very Happy Diwali.

Sd/- J.V.Dattatreyyulu

(General Secretary)

Singareni Retired Officers' Welfare Association