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ALL INDIA INSURANCE PENSIONERS' ASSOCIATION

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President: Com Ashok Tiwari

General Secretary: Com T K Chakraborty

Cir No : 23/2018 Date : 13th August 2018

To

All Divisional/Regional/State units of AIIPA

Dear Comrades,

Re: Letter to Shri V K Sharma, Chairman, LIC of India.

We reproduce below our letters dated 13^{th} August 2018 addressed to Shri V K Sharma, Chairman, LIC of India.

With greetings.

Comradely yours.

General Secretary

Date: 13th August 2018

Shri.V K Sharma, Chairman, LIC of India, Mumbai.

Dear Sir,

Although All India Insurance Pensioners' Association had reposed faith in the process of dialogue and continued its engagement with LIC for solution of issues of LIC pensioners, the Organisation had to take to legal recourse too.

This was necessitated to ensure that interests of Pensioners in receipt of Interim Relief as per Supreme Court order are not jeopardised in any manner and also to ensure welfare of both Pre and Post-August 1997 Pensioners.

In the Hon'ble Delhi High Court, our submissions were well received and the Hon'ble Court had in principle acknowledged and accepted our contention that there has been discrimination between Pensioners who were drawing Truncated Dearness Relief and those receiving Dearness Relief with Full Neutralisation.

The judgement had stated that equalisation in Dearness Relief for those under Para [1] and [2] of Appendix IV of LIC Pension Rules, 1995 should not be less than that in para 3(A) of the Appendix and such unequal treatment violated the ratio in D.S.Nakara Case and resulted in discrimination violating Article [14] of the Constitution.

However our Prayer was not fully accepted and partial relief to a section of Pre-August 1997 Pensioners has been granted.

The revised Chart submitted by LIC in the Delhi High Court, at the instance of the Court, had ostensibly taken the advice of the court in letter and not in spirit. From the figures quoted in the judgement, it can be surmised that rates up to 0.35% under para[1] and up to 0.29% under para[2] have been retained, with 0.23% replacing the lower rates.

AIIPA would like to resurrect the process of dialogue in the background of the undertaking to honour the Delhi High Court judgement

As already stated, this judgement has come with aspect of discrimination as contended by us accepted, LIC initially deciding against going on appeal and now undertaking to honour the same is morally bound to resurrect the LIC Board Resolution.

In the context of the LIC Board Resolution for ending the discrimination between Pre and Post-August 1997 Pensioners, in the aftermath of the Hon'ble Delhi High Court also acknowledging the same and considering that a major chunk of Pre-August 1997 pensioners have been left out of any benefit, though they welcome the partial relief, AIIPA urges upon LIC to passionately consider the need to uphold the rationale of the LIC Board Resolution November 2001.

Undertaking to release arrears of dearness relief to a section of pre-August 1997 pensioners getting truncated dearness relief has only fortified our demand for full neutralisation for all pensioners.

With a section of the affected Pre-August 1997 Pensioners entitled for relief, fair play and natural justice demands all such pensioners are covered and with this in view, AIIPA requests the Management to initiate steps to get the Board Resolution implemented retrospectively as 40% of the amount due up to August 2016 has already been paid and balance due and revision in pension will not be a great financial burden.

AIIPA earnestly hopes the intentions enshrined in the LIC Board Resolution and those exhibited, when the favourable inclination was on the anvil, are brought to fruition and all Pre-August 1997 Pensioners and or their legal heirs enjoy what is their legitimate due even before the next Hearing in the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

Thanking You,

Yours faithfully,

(T.K.CHAKRABORTY)
General Secretary