

MANIPUR



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GOVERNMENT OF MANIPUR
SECRETARIAT : INFORMATION & PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

NOTIFICATION

Imphal, the 27th September, 2014

No.4/6/86-Info (pt) :- The Governor of Manipur is pleased to make the following Rules to amend the Manipur Working Journalists' Pension Rules, 1996, namely:-

THE MANIPUR WORKING JOURNALISTS PENSION (AMENDMENT) RULES, 2014

1. Short Title, Extent and Commencement :-

- (1) These Rules may be called the Manipur Working Journalists' Pension (Amendment) Rules, 2014.
- (2) They shall extend to the whole of the State of Manipur.
- (3) They shall come into force with immediate effect.

2. Definition:- In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires :-

- (1) "Principal Rules" means the Manipur Working Journalists Pension Rules, 1996.
- (2) Terms defined in the Principal Rules shall have the same meaning in these Rules as they are defined in the Principal Rules.

3. Amendment of Rule 3:- In Rule 3 of the Principal Rules:

- (1) After clause (a) the following clause shall be inserted:

"(aa) 'DIPR' means the Department of Information and Public Relations of the Government of Manipur."

- (2) Clause (e) shall be substituted by the following :

"(e) 'Scheme'/'Pension Scheme' means the scheme contained in these Rules for giving pension/family pension to retired working journalists or their nominated dependent family members, as the case may be."

- (3) Clause (f) shall be substituted by the following :

"(f) 'Pension/Family Pension' means the pension or family pension given to retired members of the Scheme or their nominated dependent family members, as the case may be, under the provisions of these Rules."

(4) Clause (j) shall be substituted by the following:-

"(j) 'Working Journalist' means a person whose principal avocation is that of a journalist and who is employed as such in or in relation to any newspaper or electronic news broadcast establishment, and includes an editor, a leader writer, news-editor, sub-editor, feature-writer, copy taster, reporter, correspondent, cartoonist, news-photographer and proof-reader, and who holds a valid Press Identity Card issued by DIPR, but does not include any such person who:-

(i) Is employed mainly in a managerial or administrative capacity, or

(ii) Being employed in a supervisory capacity, performs, either by the nature of the duties attached to his office or by reason of the power vested in him, functions mainly of a managerial nature."

4. Insertion of Rule 7A:- After Rule 7 of the Principal Rules, the following Rule shall be inserted:-

"7A. Powers and Functions of the Committee.- The powers and functions of the Committee shall be as entrusted upon it by these Rules."

5. Substitution of Rule 8:- Rule 8 of the Principal Rules shall be substituted by the following:-

"8. Pension Fund:-

(i) A Pension Fund shall be set up for the purpose of receiving fund and payment of pension for the implementation of the Pension Scheme under the provisions of these Rules.

(ii) The Pension Fund shall draw its resources from grants from the Government, monthly subscriptions from members, contributions from 'Journalists' organisations and from other institutions/individuals, etc.

(iii) The Pension Fund shall be managed by the Committee and shall be deposited in a Savings Bank Account opened with a reputed Bank Branch in the name of the Committee. Accumulated fund shall be kept, to the extent possible, in National Savings Organization Schemes or fixed deposit schemes of reputed Banks to earn interests.

(iv) The Bank/Deposit Accounts of the Committee shall be operated by the Director."

6. Substitution of Rule 9 :- Rule 9 of the Principal Rules shall be substituted by the following :-

"9. Membership :-

(i) Working Journalists who have attained the age of 18 years on the date on which the scheme comes into force shall be eligible to be members of the scheme by subscribing to the Pension Fund within six months of the scheme coming into force.

- (ii) Persons who become working journalists after the scheme comes into force, and who have completed 18 years but have not attained 45 years, are eligible to be members of the Scheme if they apply for membership of the scheme within 6 (six) months of their becoming eligible.
- (iii) Working journalists who were eligible to be members of the scheme under Sub-Rules (i) and (ii), but are no longer eligible due to lapse of the prescribed time limit, will be allowed to become members of the scheme provided -
 - (a) they deposit all the subscriptions from the time they first became eligible to be members of the scheme, with simple interest @ 6% per annum.
 - (b) they apply for membership before they attain the age of 45 years.
- (iv) A member may resign from his/her membership of the scheme by submitting a letter of resignation under his/her signature addressed to the Chairman or Member-Secretary of the Committee.
- (v) Any member who is in default of payment of his/her subscriptions for three consecutive months or more shall automatically cease to be a member of the scheme.
Provided that such member shall be readmitted as a member if he/she clears all arrears of subscription with simple interest @ 6% per annum within 1 (one) year of his/her ceasing to be a member.
- (vi) A member shall automatically cease to be a member if and when he/she ceases to be a working journalist before having attained the age of 60 years and before having subscribed to the Fund for at least 30 years.
- (vii) The Committee may, for sufficient reason of misconduct, criminal or otherwise, to be recorded, terminate the membership of a member after giving him/her an opportunity of being heard.
- (viii) Applications for membership of the Scheme shall be in Form I appended to these Rules.

7. Insertion of Rules 9A and 9B :- After Rule 9 of the Principal Rules, the following Rules shall be inserted :-

"9A. Nomination :-

- (i) A member may nominate, at the time of his application for membership or at any time thereafter, members of his/her family who should be paid family pension in accordance with the provisions of these Rules, and may also modify his nomination at any time during his membership of the Scheme.
- (ii) A member may nominate the following members of his family for the purpose mentioned in Sub-Rule (i) above :-
 - (a) Dependent spouse.
 - (b) Dependent sons who have not attained the age of 30 years.
 - (c) Dependent unmarried daughters who have not attained the age of 30 years.
- (iii) Nomination or modification of nomination shall be made in Form II appended to these Rules.

9B. Subscriptions :-

- (i) A member of the scheme shall subscribe to the fund by paying a monthly subscription from the month he/she becomes a member @ a fixed rate depending upon the age of the member at the time of entry into the Scheme which will be as below:

<u>Age at entry</u>	<u>Rate of monthly subscription</u>
18 years & above but below 25 years	- Rs. 60/- p.m.
25 years & above but below 30 years	- Rs. 75/- p.m.
30 years & above but below 35 years	- Rs. 90/- p.m.
35 years & above but below 40 years	- Rs. 115/- p.m.
40 years & above but below 45 years	- Rs. 150/- p.m.

- (ii) Subscription for a month shall be paid by a member before the end of the month. All delayed subscriptions shall be paid with simple interest @ 6% per annum for the period of delay. In computing the period for which interest is to be paid, fractions of a month shall be treated as a month.
- (iii) Subscription to the fund shall discontinue on a member attaining the age of 60 years, or on his/her retirement from the profession of journalism, or on his/her becoming invalid due to which he/she is unable to continue working as a journalist, whichever is earliest.
- (iv) The subscriptions collected each month shall be deposited into the Pension Fund account on or before the 10th of the subsequent month.

9C. Refund of Subscriptions :-

- (i) The accumulated subscriptions of a member shall be refunded without interest when the membership of a member ceases due to any of the reasons given in Sub-rules (iv) to (vi) of Rule 9, provided that the member has been a member and has subscribed to the fund for at least 1 year without any default.
- (ii) In case the membership of a member is terminated by the Committee due to misconduct under Rule 9(vii), the Committee shall decide if the accumulated subscriptions of the member should be refunded."

8. **Substitution of Rule 10 :-** Rule 10 of the Principal Rules shall be substituted by the following :-

"10. Payment of Pension :-

- (i) **Pension :-** Pension @ Rs 4000/- (Rupees four thousand only) per month shall be paid to a member in the following cases :
- (a) On the retirement of the member from the profession of journalism or on his attaining the age of 60 years, whichever is later, from the month following the month during which the member retires or attains the age of 60 years, as the case may be, till he/she expires.
- (b) On a member becoming invalid and unable to continue working as a journalist due to his invalidity, from the month following the month in which the member becomes invalidated till he/she expires.

Provided the member should have been a member and subscribed to the fund for at least 5 years.

(ii) **Family Pension** : Family Pension of Rs 2000/- (Rupees two thousand only) per month shall be paid to the nominee of a member who dies while he is a member of the Scheme or while he is receiving pension as below:

- (a) If the nominee is the dependent widow or widower of a member, up to the date of death or re-marriage of the nominee;
- (b) If the nominee is a dependent son, until he attains the age of 30 (thirty) years, or he gets employment, whichever is earlier;
- (c) If the nominee is an un-married dependent daughter, until she attains the age of 30 (thirty) years or until she gets married, or until she gets employment, whichever is earliest:

Provided that if the son or daughter is suffering from any mental disorder or disability or is physically crippled, he/she shall be entitled to the family pension for his/her life time.

Provided further that if a member has no nominee, or if the nominees have become ineligible to get the Family Pension, the Family Pension shall be paid to one of his/her family members who is eligible to be nominated for the family pension in the following order :

- an eligible family member who is unanimously recommended by all family members to receive the family pension;
- spouse, son or daughter (eldest to youngest), in case there is no unanimous choice of eligible family member

(v) **Lump Sum Pension** : Journalists who had already retired before the commencement of these Rules, who completed 20 years of service in the profession of journalism and have attained 60 years of age shall be paid a lump sum, one-time pension of Rs 10,000/- (Rupees ten thousand only).

(vi) A member who is in receipt of any kind of pension from any other source, or is employed by the Government or its agencies, shall not be eligible to receive Pension other than Lump Sum Pension, under the Scheme."

9. **Amendment of Annexure I** : The title of Annexure I appended to the Principal Rules, i.e. "Annexure I", shall be substituted by "Form I".

10. **Amendment of Annexure II** : The title of Annexure II appended to the Principal Rules, i.e. "Annexure II", shall be substituted by "Form II".

This issues with the approval of FD/PIC vide their U.O.No 89/2014-2015/FD(PIC), dated 21/08/2014.

By orders & in the name of the Governor,

LETKHOGIN HAOKIP,
Principal Secretary/IPR,
Government of Manipur.