

**The Member,
Association for the Welfare of Retired Persons (All).**

Subject: **ACTIVITIES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DURING THE YEAR.**

Honorable Member,

It will be satisfying for you that Executive Committee, elected by you, is quite alive to the welfare of the pensioners which will be evidenced from some of the following important steps taken by it.

2) You will kindly recall that the Secretary Finance on the occasion of last Family Get-together held in November, 2017, in his address, stated that he would take care of the procedural issues forthwith while for those involving financial implications, needed to be sorted out with the Regulation Wing of Ministry of Finance and resubmitted some time before and at the time of formulation of budgetary proposals. In pursuance of that and after having done the essential home work, the President along with Mr. Agha Amir met the Joint Secretary Regulation to firm up the proposals.

3) As a sequel to the above meeting, a self-contained submission was addressed to the Finance Secretary, and thereafter, a delegation headed by the President and comprising Ch. Munir Ahmad, Mr. Agha Amir Ahmad and Mr. Ali Asghar Awan called on the Additional Secretary, Regulation and placed before him the following proposals for the consideration of the Govt.

- A) De-freezing of medical allowance.
- B) Increasing rate of family pension from the existing 75% to 100%.
- C) Linking increases with age slabs and reduction of age of 85 years to 80 years for the grant of 15% additional increase in pension (differential of 2016 rates).
- D) Increase in pension at least up to 20%.
- E) Allowing Special Additional pension to families.
- F) Issuance of I.D. Cards to the pensioners.

The meeting was held in a very cordial atmosphere and the Additional Secretary was favorably inclined but he did not mince words about the severe budgetary constraints the Govt. was faced with. He, however, advised that it would be worthwhile if the Association representatives also met the Special Secretary Finance, who was coordinating the budgetary matters. When Executive Committee was apprised of the above effort in its last meeting, it decided that the focus be primarily placed on the above first three items.

4) Accordingly, Ch. Munir Ahmad, member of EC, called on the Special Secretary on April 17, 2018 and drew his attention to the above three issues, who listened carefully and promised to look into these issue with a view to accommodating these as far as possible.

5) Besides the above, the matter relating to issuance of I.D. Cards to the pensioners specifically came under discussion with the Additional Secretary Regulation, who intimated that it had been decided that the departments/Ministries & Divisions/organizations etc. wherefrom the pensioner retired would issue the cards. He promised that Finance Division would issue directions to all. A specimen of the card had since been provided to the Additional Secretary Regulation.

Another point which also warrants attention is the increase in the maturity periods of Pensioners Benefit Account (PBA) and Behbood Savings Certificates (BSC) of National Savings Schemes from 10 years to life and, if not possible, at least to double the maturity period. President along with Mr. Ali Asghar Awan held a meeting with the Director General National Savings some time back, who assured that they would examine our request. We are in touch with the department. Furthermore, let us share with you that our hands are full with the issues/assignments pertaining to the welfare of the pensioners, which are receiving our active consideration. For example we have recently approached Federal Employees Benevolent and Group Insurance Funds (FEB&GIF) Organization to pay the amount of group insurance to all the retired employees of the federal govt, in pursuance of the decision of Supreme Court of Pakistan whereby the judgement of Peshawar High Court granting the prayer of retired employees of KPK for payment of group insurance has been upheld.

6) We are constrained to mention with a heavy heart that one Honorable Member of the Association has filed a civil suit against the Association whereby he obtained a restraining order from the court restraining the EC from referring the amendments in the constitution approved by the AGM during its last meeting to the Registrar ICT for vetting as per law. We are pursuing the case in the court of law. As is obvious, this has diverted the attention of E.C. from its main assignment of welfare activities. Moreover, it has become instrumental in causing wastage of time, energy and funds of the Association.

7) Last but not the least, we assure you that we will live up to the confidence you reposed in you elected Executive Committee and would not leave any stone unturned in the accomplishment of its duties.

With regards.



(Ali Asghar Awan)
Secretary General

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