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No.17(17)/2015/WE/D(Res-I)
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
(DEPARTMENT OF EX-SERVICEMEN WELFARE)
B WING, ROOM No.221
SENA BHAVAN, NEW DELHI

Dated 05th February, 2019

To,
The Managing Director
Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme
Central Organisation
Thimaiya Marg
Gopinath Circle
Delhi Cantt.

Subject: Implementation of Judgement of Hon'ble High Court of Kerala – Order dated 30-1-2015 in WPC No.23422 of 2013 filed by Ex-Subedar Tulsi Nair Vs UOI & Others - Grant of ECHS facilities to Assam Rifles pensioners and their dependants residing in India and Nepal.

Sir,

The undersigned is directed to refer to the judgement dated 30-1-2015 of Hon'ble High Court of Kerala and subsequent judgements of double Bench of Hon'ble High Court of Kerala dated 10th August 2017 in WA No.709 of 2015 and Hon'ble Supreme Court of India Order promulgated on 9-2-2018 in SLP (Civil) No.(s)1044/2018 regarding the grant of ECHS benefits to Assam Rifles (AR) pensioners and their dependants residing in India and Nepal and to state that the matter has been considered in the meeting held on 16-1-2019 of Cabinet Committee on Security and it has been decided to grant ECHS benefits to Assam Rifles pensioners and their dependants residing in India and Nepal subject to the following conditions :

- (i) They must be in receipt of pension
- (ii) They must request for membership of ECHS and accept the Rules of ECHS.
- (iii) They must not be members of CGHS. However, those who have already joined CGHS and wish to switch over to ECHS will have to first give up their membership of CGHS and submit documentary evidence in support thereof at the time of applying for ECHS membership. However, they will not have to pay contribution again for ECHS membership. Such a shift /switch will be allowed only once and no reversion will be permitted thereafter.

(iv) They will also have to forego Fixed Medical Allowance (FMA) if they were in receipt of the same.

(v) They must make the one time contribution to become ECHS member as applicable to their grade /rank as per order to be issued subsequently.

(vi) Those in receipt of FMA must surrender FMA if they are residing in any district covered by ECHS.

(vii) War widows, battle casualties and pre 1-1-1996 retirees shall be exempted from payment of one time ECHS contribution.

(viii) Eligibility of dependants will be determined according to the ECHS rules.

(ix) All AR retirees and their dependants shall continue to be eligible for treatment in all AR hospitals / clinics as at present.

2. This issues with the approval of MoD(Finance/Pension) vide their ID No.32(24)/2018/Fin/Pen dated 31-1-2019.

Yours faithfully



(A.K. Karn)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India

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Copy to :

1. PPS to RM
2. PPS to RRM
3. Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs
4. Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family welfare
5. Secretary, Ministry of Finance (Deptt. of Expenditure)
6. Secretary, Ministry of Law & Justice (Deptt. of Legal Affairs)
7. Secretary(Defence)
8. Cabinet Secretariat w.r.t. their letter No.CCS/03/2019(i) dated 21-1-2019
9. MD, ECHS with the request to urgently forward draft govt letter on one time contribution to be deposited by AR Pensioners.
10. MoD(Fin./Pension)
11. Addl. FA & JS(RK)
12. O/o CGDA
13. AMA, ECHS, Embassy of Nepal, Kathmandu
14. DGADS.