

Minutes of the Pre Retirement Counseling workshop held on 31st May, 2016 at Vigyan Bhawan under the chairmanship of Secretary (Pension)

A Pre Retirement Counseling workshop was conducted on 31st May, 2016 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi for retiring employees of various Ministries/Departments of the Central Government.

At the outset, Joint Secretary (Pension) welcomed the participants and gave a brief overview of the workshop. During the technical sessions she informed the participants about the road map for sanction of pension and other retirement benefits and the role and responsibility of the retiring employees as well as that of Head of Office for timely payment of retirement dues. Participants were asked to complete all formalities in time and submit Form 5 to Head of Office. Heads of Departments were requested to monitor the delay at various stages through Bhavishya.

In the next session, participants were informed about Sankalp, the scheme of Department of Pension & PW for engaging pensioners for voluntary work. Retiring employees were asked to share their experience through Anubhav portal so that the institutions could benefit from their experience and the institutional memories could be strengthened. The Anubhav forms submitted by pensioners were collected.

Dr. Tiwani, Director, CGHS informed the participants about the CGHS scheme for pensioners and family pensioners and the procedure to get temporary card after retirement.

In the next sessions basic advice on investment, preparation of will and benefits available to senior citizens including Income Tax benefits were also covered.

During the question and answer session, following issues were raised by the participants:

Issue 1: **Service verification has not been completed in time and there was a round delay in processing of pension cases.**

- It was agreed that the matter would be taken up with the concerned Ministry. A general set of instructions would also be sent.

Issue 2: **A participant raised a point that for the CGEGIS, payment is delayed due to missing entry in the service book.**

- JS (P) stated that the matter has been taken up with Department of Expenditure and would be followed up.

Issue 3: **One of the participant asked whether vigilance clearance is required at the time of retirement.**

- It was informed that there is no provision in pension rules.

Issue 4: **One participant enquired whether any pension process will be delayed on account of non availability of record of government accommodation and not informed by Directorate of Estates.**

- JS (P) stated that Directorate of Estates is responsible for giving timely information on dues to be deducted on account of license fee etc. Gratuity may be paid by office if Directorate of Estates does not inform in time.

The workshop ended with Vote of Thanks to the participants.

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