



SOUTHERN RAILWAY EMPLOYEES' SANGH CENTRAL OFFICE - MEDIA CELL



Historic Achievement of NFIR

NFIR PNM ITEM No 02/2023 & 11/2025

**Sub: Consideration of cases of Railway employees appointed on
Compassionate grounds for coverage under Railway Service (Pension)
Rules, 1993.**

NFIR has been urging upon the Railway Board that the Widows/ Wards of deceased / medically invalidated employees who applied for Compassionate Ground Appointment prior to 22nd December, 2003, but however appointments were granted in their cases during post January, 2004 period should be covered under Railway Service (Pension) Rules, 1993 (Old Pension Scheme) duly accepting their options. However, Railway Board was reluctant to issue suitable clarifications to the Zonal Railways, etc., for allowing coverage of such appointees under OPS, citing DoP & PW's clarification issued vide O.M dated 07th August, 2023 to the Railway Ministry.

NFIR had contended in the meetings held with Railway Board was that pursuant to the death / medical invalidation of the Railway employee, the family has the right to claim CG Appointment to one of the eligible wards. When the families of the deceased/ medically invalidated employees submitted claim prior to 22nd December, 2003, such claims were processed by the Zonal Administration and wards were granted appointment resulting their joining after 01/01/2004, all such employees are required to be considered for coverage under Old Pension Scheme. Moreover, NFIR had contended that the vacancies in different categories existed prior to December 22, 2003 also, therefore the claims / applications submitted prior to the said date were dealt by the Administration but however appointment orders were issued later on resulting their joining during January, 2004 and onwards.

Based on NFIR's logical argument, the Railway Ministry had referred the matter to Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare

(DoP&PW), Nodal Department of the Government on Pensionary matters, for seeking their advice. Further in the meeting held with Secretary (Pension), DoP&PW, Lok Nayak Marg, Khan Market, New Delhi on 25/2/2025, NFIR explained the need for extending the facility of coverage of employees appointed on Compassionate grounds under OPS, in the cases of those who had submitted their application before 01.01.2004 but were appointed after 01.01.2004, highlighting the fact that there is no Notification / Advertisement in the case of Compassionate ground appointments. Therefore, in order to extend the benefit of DoP&PW O.M dated 3.3.2023 to them, the date of their application for Compassionate Ground Appointment may be treated as the date of notification/ advertisement. It was requested that para 4 of the DoP&PW's OM dated 3.3.2023 may be revised, which proposal was also favoured by the Railway Ministry and accordingly DoP&PW agreed to initiate inter-ministerial consultations with DoPT, DoLA, DFS & DoE. In the PNM Meeting held with NFIR on 6th & 7th May, 2025, Railway Board agreed to pursue the issue vigorously.

In the 49th Meeting of NC/JCM held at Seva Teerth New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary on 11th May 2026, GS/ NFIR took up the issue of Coverage under Old Pension Scheme the case of employees appointed on grounds of compassion after 01.01.2004, although applied for appointment prior to 01.01.2004. GS/ NFIR mentioned that even though it was agreed by Secretary / DoP & PW in the meeting held on 25th February, 2025 that date of application for CG appointment shall be the criteria for coverage under OPS but however orders are yet to be issued. Cabinet Secretary responded by saying that orders will be issued soon.

DoP & PW issued orders on 22.06.2026, paving the way for historic success of our continued struggle.

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President /SRES & GS/NFIR

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Circular
No. **42/2026**

CENTRAL OFFICE
24.06.2026

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