

सुरेश प्रभु
SURESH PRABHU



सत्यमेव जयते



एक कदम स्वच्छता की ओर

S.No 37

रेल मंत्री
भारत सरकार, नई दिल्ली
MINISTER OF RAILWAYS
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

No. 2012/F(E)III/1/1/4-Pt.

12.0 NOV 2015

Dear Shri Jaitely ji,

I would like to draw your kind attention to my predecessor's D.O. letter of even no. dated 29.03.2014 (copy enclosed) addressed to the then Finance Minister regarding exemption of Railway employees appointed on or after 01.01.2004 from the purview of National Pension System (NPS).

The recognized Railway Federation (NFIR) & AIRF) have been demanding for quite sometime seeking exemption of railway employees from NPS by drawing a parallel with the nature of duties performed by the Armed Forces, who are not covered under NPS. Their contention is that railway employees are required to work in inhospitable conditions, braving extreme weather, unfriendly law and order scenario and inherent risks associated with the Railway Operations itself round the clock throughout the year. As in the case of Armed Forces, many railway officials have to stay away from their families for long period of time while performing duties in areas where adequate facilities are not available. Railways is an operational organization required to run round the clock throughout the year irrespective of weather conditions. The duties of Railway employees are not only critical and complex but also hazardous at times.

Though Ministry of Finance (Department of Financial Services) vide their letter dated 15.05.2015 (copy enclosed) have not agreed to the proposal to exempt the railwaymen appointed on or after 01.01.2014 from the purview of NPS, it is felt that there is strong merit in reconsideration of the proposal.

The Railway Federations are persistently raising their demand in various fora for withdrawal of NPS in respect of railway employees. The Federations are also resenting against the notice issued by National Pension System Trust (NPS Trust) to all the subscribers under NPS that the Trust will start recovering fee/charge @ 0.01% of the Asset Under Management (AUM) on daily accrual basis to meet its expenditure w.e.f. 01.11.2015.

In view of forgoing, may I request you to kindly have a relook into the case sympathetically and consider favourably the demand of the Railway Federations to exempt railway employees from the purview of NPS.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Suresh Prabhu)

Shri Arun Jaitely,
Minister of Finance,
Government of India,
North Block,
New Delhi-110001.