

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA (BHARAT SARKAR)
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (RAIL MANTRALAYA)
(RAILWAY BOARD)**

No. F(E)III/2007/PN1/5

NEW DELHI Dated: 20.08.2008

**The GMs/FA&CAOs,
All Indian Railways/Production Units,
(As per Mailing List)**

Sub: Eligibility of divorced/widowed daughter for grant of family pension- Clarification regarding.

Instructions were issued vide Board's letters No. F(E)III/98/PN1/4 dated 16.3.2005 and 13.10.2006 extending the scope of family pension to widowed/divorced daughter beyond 25 years of age subject to fulfillment of all other conditions prescribed in the case of son/daughter. A few references have been received from different Railways seeking clarification on certain issues related to these instructions, which have been examined in consultation with Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare and it is clarified as under:

S.No.	Issue Raised	Clarification
(i)	Whether a daughter who is divorced/attains widowhood at any age is eligible for family pension (e.g. at the age of 60,70...)?	Yes; a widowed/divorced daughter shall be eligible for family pension irrespective of her age at the time of becoming widow/divorcee subject to fulfillment of certain conditions, including the income criterion, as stipulated in the relevant provisions of Railway Services (Pension) Rules, 1993 and the orders issued thereunder.
(ii)	Whether the divorced/widowed daughter is eligible for family pension even after the cessation of pension/family pension to the employee/widow/dependents (when all the members of the family cease to draw family pension and there is a gap of one or more years).	Yes; Divorced/widowed daughter will be eligible for family pension after the cessation of pension/family pension to the employee/widow. The orders shall, however, apply prospectively as and when such a contingency happens.

(iii)	Whether the divorced/widowed daughter is eligible for family pension even when she has children who are gainfully employed.	Yes; The criteria as provided in the rule is that the income of the divorced/widowed daughter should not exceed Rs. 2550/-p.m. from employment in the govt., the private sector, self-employment, etc. The main consideration here is whether she is earning more than Rs.2550/-p.m. or not.
(iv)	How the claim of an elder daughter becoming widow or getting divorced while her younger widowed/divorced sister is already in receipt of family pension, is to be regulated?	In such a situation the younger widowed/divorced daughter may continue to draw the family pension for life. The elder widowed/divorced daughter would get the family pension only after the younger daughter who is in receipt of family pension, becomes ineligible by way of death/income criteria etc. as provided in the Rules.

2. Please acknowledge receipt.


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