

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3497
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2015
DISCRIMINATION IN PENSION SCHEMES
Reddy Shri Ch. Malla

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any representation has been received by the Government regarding gross discrimination in the implementation of pension schemes that have been implemented in various autonomous Research and Development Laboratories under the administrative control of the Ministry of Science and Technology;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year, institution/laboratory-wise;
- (c) the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to redress the grievances of the personnel working in these laboratories?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY)

(a) to (c): Representations from various Autonomous Institutions under the Department of Science & Technology and the Department of Biotechnology have been received in the Ministry for implementation of pension scheme on same basis as applicable to Central Government Employees, who joined before 01.01.2004. Details of such representations received since 2012 are as under:

S.No. Year Institute/Laboratory

(1) (2) (3)

- 1 2012 S.N.Bose National Centre for Basic Sciences, Kolkata
- 2 Vigyan Prasar, NOIDA, UP
- 3 International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy and New Materials (ARCI), Hyderabad
- 4 Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science (IACS), Kolkata
- 5 Centre for Soft Matter Research (CSMR), Bengaluru
- 6 Institute of Advanced Study in Science & Technology (IASST), Guwahati
- 7 2013 Vigyan Prasar, NOIDA, UP
- 8 Centre for Soft Matter Research (CSMR), Bengaluru
- 9 National Brain Research Centre (NBRC), Manesar, Gurgaon
- 10 Centre for DNA Fingerprinting and Diagnostics (CDFD), Hyderabad
- 11 National Centre for Cell Science (NCCS), Pune
- 12 2014 Technology Information, Forecasting & Assessment Council (TIFAC), New Delhi
- 13 Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR), Bengaluru
- 14 ARCI, Hyderabad
- 15 Vigyan Prasar, NOIDA, UP
- 16 2015 ARCI, Hyderabad

However, there is no discrimination in the pension schemes that have been implemented in various autonomous Research and Development Laboratories under the administrative control of the Ministry of Science and Technology, since every autonomous institute is a separate legal entity having its own Memorandum of Association, Rules & Regulations and Bye Laws, which inter-alia contain provisions governing conditions of service, including pension, of employees of respective institutions. Council for Scientific & Industrial Research

(CSIR), under Department of Scientific & Industrial Research, is the only exception where all 38 laboratories are part of single legal entity CSIR. Bye Laws and Rules and Regulations of some of the institutes provide for pension to their employees while those of others instead provide for Contributory Provident Fund or Employees Provident Fund. Consequent upon joining these institutes, their employees have accepted the terms and conditions of their employment applicable to the respective institutions.

(d) After the introduction of New Pension Scheme effective from January 01, 2004, the Government, vide ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure O.M. dated 30th June 2009 had already permitted employees of autonomous bodies, who joined before 01.01.2004 to shift from Contributory Provident Fund to New Pension scheme. However, the representations received were also examined in the Ministry of Science & Technology and the Ministry of Finance, but in view of introduction of New Pension Scheme,

which is a Defined Contribution Scheme, it has not been found feasible to agree to a Defined Benefit Pension Scheme retrospectively.