No. 1 (2)/2012/D(Pen/Pol)
Government of India
Ministry of Defence
Department of Ex-servicemen Welfare
D(Pension/Policy)

To

The Chief of Army Staff.
The Chief of Naval Staff
The Chief of Air Staff

Subject: Grant of family pension to dependent parents of deceased Armed Forces Personnel.

New Delhi, the 15 May 2012

Sir,

The undersigned is directed to refer to this Ministry’s letter No. B/38207/AG/PS-4(b)/931/B/D(Pen/Sers) dated 26.08.1998, whereby the definition of family for the purpose of grant of family pension was extended to include, inter-alia, “Parents who were wholly dependent on the Govt. servant when he/she was alive provided the deceased Armed Force Personnel had left behind neither a widow nor a child”.

2. It has been observed that PSAs/ROs have been interpreting this to mean that parents are eligible for family pension when the deceased Armed Force Personnel is survived by them only in case the deceased is survived by a widow and/or one or more children, the parents are not considered eligible to receive family pension subsequently to such widow and/or children becoming ineligible to receive family pension or ceasing to survive.

3. It is hereby clarified that in case deceased Armed Force Personnel is not survived by a widow/widower or a child, the dependent parents become directly eligible to receive family pension. In case where a deceased Armed Force Personnel is survived by a widow/widower or child and position changes subsequently because of death or remarriage of the spouse and/or death or ineligibility of child/children including disabled child, the dependent parents become eligible for family pension. However in term of this Ministry’s letter No. 17(4)/2008(2)/D(Pen/Pol) dated 12.11.2008, a childless widow, subject to dependency criteria is entitled to the family pension even after remarriage. In such an event, the parents of the deceased Armed Force Personnel become entitled to the family pension only after the childless widow dies or when her independent income from all sources becomes equal to or higher than prescribed dependency criteria under the rules.

4. This issue with the concurrence of the Finance Division of this Ministry vide their UO No. M.F. – 10(4)/2011/Fin/Pen, dated 09.05.2012.

\[Signature\]
(Malalithi Narayanan)
Under Secretary to Government of India

Copy to:

As per standard list.