

**THE MANIPUR WORKING JOURNALIST'S PENSION RULES, 1996**  
**(Amended 2007)**

1. Short Title: – The rules may be called the Manipur Working Journalists' Pension Rules, 1996.

2. Extent and Commencement: –

- (i) It shall be extended to the whole of the State of Manipur.
- (ii) It shall come into force from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

3. Definition:- In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires:-

- (a) "Committee" means the Manipur Government working Journalists' Pension Committee constituted for the purpose;
- (b) "Director" means the Director of Information and Public Relations, Government of Manipur ;
- (c) "Form" means prescribed form appended to the Rules;
- (d) "Member(s)" means those working journalist who have become member(s) of the scheme for giving pension to journalists;
- (e) "Scheme" means the scheme for giving pension benefit to the working journalists and their nominated family members of the State;
- (f) "Pension benefit" means the financial assistance given to the working journalist or their nominated dependent family members as the case may be;
- (g) "Pension Fund" means the pension fund raised for the purpose of the scheme under these rules;
- (h) "State Government" means the Government of Manipur;
- (i) "State" means the State of Manipur;
- (j) "Working Journalist" means a person whose principal avocation is that of a journalist and who is employed as such in, or in relation to, any newspaper establishment, and includes an editor, a leader writer, news-editor, sub-editor, feature-writer, copy test or, reporter, correspondent, cartoonist, news-photographer and proof-reader, but does not include any such person who:-
  - (i) Is employed mainly, in a managerial or administrative capacity or
  - (ii) Being employed in a supervisory capacity, performs, either by the nature of the duties attached to his office or by reason of the power vested in him, functions mainly of a managerial nature.
  - (iii) And who has got recognition of the Deptt. Of Information and Public Relations, Govt. of Manipur.

4. COMMITTEE:-

- (i) The State Government may, by notification in the official Gazette constitute a Manipur Working Journalists' Pension Committee.
- (ii) The Head office of the Committee shall be at Imphal.
- (iii) The Committee shall consist of the following,
  - (a) The Commissioner/Secretary;  
Information and Public Relations, Govt. of Manipur - Chairman
  - (b) The Director,  
Information and Public Relations, Govt. of Manipur - Member Secretary

- (c) The Secretary (Law) - Member  
Govt. of Manipur or his nominee
- (d) The Director, Small Saving,  
Govt. of Manipur or representative of Finance deptt, Manipur -Member
- (e) The Deputy Labour Commissioner.  
Govt. of Manipur - Member
- (f) The Asstt. Information Officer, Press Information Bureau  
Govt. of India, Imphal - Member
- (g) Three representatives at the maximum from Journalist  
Organisations/Unions which are in existence for atleast 10 years  
to be nominated by the State Government. - Member

**5. TERM OF OFFICE :-**The term of Office of the nominated members of the Committee shall be two years;  
Provided that State Government may, be notification in Official Gazette, for sufficient cause to be stated therein extend the term of office of any or all of the nominated members of the Committee for such period not exceeding one year at a time and two in the aggregate.

**6. MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE:-** The Committee shall meet to transact its business from time to time at such place and time as the Chairman may determine.

Provided that the Committee shall normally meet once every three months.

**7. QUORUM :-** The quorum of a meeting of the Committee shall be two-thirds of the members of the Committee.

**8. PENSION FUNDS:-**

- i) Pension fund shall draw its resources from State Government grant, monthly subscription from members, contributions from the Journalist organisations and from any institutions/individuals etc.
- ii ) The pension fund shall be managed by the Committee by keeping the same in the National Savings Organisation Schemes.
- iii) Transaction of the account of the fund shall be operated by the Director.

**9. MEMBERSHIP :-**

i) The Working Journalist who have attained the age of 18 years and above as on the date on which the scheme comes into force and who are willing to avail of pension facility shall be eligible for becoming members of the scheme by subscribing to the pension fund within six months of the scheme coming into force. The rate of subscription for a member is fixed and it shall be determined at the time of admission in accordance with the age of the subscriber as detailed below:-

From 18 to 35 years	- Rs 30/- per month
From 36 to 45 years	- Rs 40/- per month
From 46 to 60 years	- Rs 50/- per month

The subscription to the pension fund shall discontinue on attaining 60 years of age of the member.

(ii) Persons becoming working journalists after the scheme comes into force are also eligible to become members of the scheme provided they have completed

18 years of age but not yet attained 45 years as on the 1<sup>st</sup> January of the year of application.

Provided that they shall subscribe to the pension fund within six months of their becoming working journalists at the rates and conditions prescribed in clause(i) above;

- i) For membership of the scheme, the Working Journalist shall apply in the form appended in annexure I & II;
- ii) The subscription amount shall be remitted before the 10<sup>th</sup> of every month in the account of the committee. Necessary entries of remittance shall be made in the pass book provided and it shall be treated as valid document for computing pension.  
All subscription has to be deposited with interest in case the same has not been deposited before due date;  
(iv-a) The Working Journalist who was not admitted as member of the pension scheme be allowed to enrol as member by depositing the mandatory categorized amount with effect from the implementation of the pension scheme, or he becomes a working journalist whichever is later.
- iii) Any member who is in default in payment of his/her subscription for six months consecutively or more shall automatically cease to be a member of the scheme;
- iv) Any member may resign his/her membership from the scheme by a letter of resignation under his/her signature addressed to the Member Secretary of the Committee;
- (vii) The Committee may, for sufficient reason to be recorded and after giving opportunity to the member for being heard accept the resignation and terminate his/her membership from the scheme and in such case, the member concerned shall be entitled to get back the aggregate amount of subscription paid by him/her without interest within 6 months of accepting his/her resignation;
- (viii) The Committee may, for sufficient reason of misconduct, criminal or otherwise to be recorded and after giving opportunity of being heard or for being derecognised as a working journalist by the competent authority, terminate a member from his/her membership of the scheme. In such case, the issue of whether the subscription of the member is to be forfeited or not shall be decided by the Committee;
- (ix) A member whose membership has ceased under Sub-rule (v) may be re-admitted as a member of the scheme.

Provided he/she clears all arrear of subscription with interest within one year from the date he/she ceased to be a member of the scheme.

- (x) The amount subscribe by member who ceases to be a working journalist is to be refunded without interest provided he/she did not serve for 25 years.

#### **10. PAYMENT OF PENSION:-**

- (A) (i) A pension amount of Rs 2000/- per month shall be given to a member on attainment of 60 years of age till he/she expires provided he/she retires from service

otherwise the pension benefit shall be put on hold till he/she continues in the services.

Provided that the member shall work as working journalist for atleast 25 years before attaining age of 60 years.

(ii) A member who has completed 5 years of membership but could not continue service because of becoming invalid shall be entitled the pension benefit of Rs 2000/- per month till he/she expires,

(iii) In case of death of pensioner, a family pension of Rs 1000/- shall be paid as follows;

- (a) In the case of a widow or widower, upto the date of death or re-marriage, whichever is earlier;
- (b) In the case of a son, until he attains the age of 30 (thirty) years;
- (c) In the case of un-married daughter, until she attains the age of 30 (thirty) years or until she gets married, whichever is earlier;

Provided that if the son or daughter of the pensioner is suffering from any disorder or disability of mind or physically crippled, he/she shall be entitled the family pension for life time.

(iv) A member who is enjoying any kind of pension from any source shall not be allowed to enjoy Pension facility under the scheme.

(B) The journalists who have already retired before the commencement of these rules, and are not in a position to register themselves as member of the scheme, after they have attained 60 years of age and completed 20 years of service in the profession of Journalism are eligible for pension. A lump sum of Rs 10,000/- as one time pension payment only to each of such veteran journalists shall be made.

**11. SANCTIONING AUTHORITY :-**

The Committee shall be the final authority for releasing the pension under the scheme.

**12.** In case of any dispute, the decision of the State Government shall be final.