

Armed Forces Tribunal  
PRINCIPAL BENCH



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File No. 5(43)/2015/AFT/PB

Dated: 28<sup>th</sup> January, 2026

CIRCULAR / NOTICE

1. Reference is invited to Ministry of Defence Communication No. 11(03)/2024-D(CMU)-Vol-II dated 22.01.2026 (copy enclosed), wherein it has been clarified that pension-related matters of service personnel under the Ministry of Defence, not involving any policy implications, shall be defended by the respective Service Headquarters.
2. It has further been clarified that in both Service Pension and Pension Policy related cases, where Special Leave Petitions (SLPs) are required to be filed before the Hon'ble Supreme Court, the Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare (DESW) shall act as the nodal department for deciding the appropriate action and for issuing necessary directions to the concerned organizations for further action.
3. This Circular is issued for information and compliance by all concerned, with a view to streamlining proceedings before the Hon'ble Armed Forces Tribunal.



(Arun Khera)  
Registrar

**Copy for information and necessary action:**

1. PPS to Hon'ble HoDs, AFT, Regional Benches
2. Secretaries, AFT Bar Associations
3. PPS to Hon'ble Members, AFT (PB)
4. Joint Registrar, AFT (PB), New Delhi
5. PPS to Hon'ble Chairperson, AFT (PB), New Delhi
6. Section Officers (Judicial/Filing), AFT (PB), New Delhi
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**Copy for information:**

1. Sr. PPS to Secretary, Ministry of Defence, South Block, New Delhi
2. Sr. PPS to Secretary, DMA, South Block, New Delhi.
3. Sr. PPS to Secretary, DESW, South Block, New Delhi

No. 11(03)/2024-D(CMU)- Vol . II

Government of India  
Ministry of Defence  
Department of Defence  
D(CMU)  
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Sena Bhawan, New Delhi

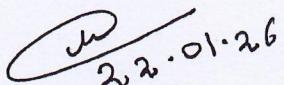
To  
The Principal Registrar  
AFT(PB), West Block-8  
Sector-1, R.K. Puram, New Delhi-110023

Sir,

This is in furtherance to the Ministry's letter of even number dated 04.11.2024 and AFT(PB) notice no. 5(43)/2015/AFT/PB dated 29.11.2024 on the above cited subject.

2. It is clarified that, in pension related matters of service personnel of the Ministry of Defence, where no policy implications are involved , the three Service Headquarters are the respondents and responsibility for implementation rests with them .
3. In both Service Pension or Pension Policy related cases, wherein SLPs are required, the Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare is the nodal department for deciding appropriate action and for issuing directions to the organizations concerned for appropriate action.
4. This issues with the approval of the Defence Secretary.

Yours faithfully,



22.01.26

(M. Mukherjee)  
Director (MIS)

Tel: 23013963/23017648

Copy for information and necessary action to:

AG/COP/AOP  
JAG(Army)/JAG(Navy)/JAG(Air)

Copy also for kind information to:  
Defence Secretary/Secretary(DMA)/Secretary(ESW)

AFT, PB , New Delhi	
Diary No.	H.D.
Date	28-01-26
Section Officer	
Dy. Registrar	D.D. <i>Y.S.</i>
Dy. Director (Doc)	PPS <i>S.C. 112</i>

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