

Eastern Railway
(Personnel Department)
17 N. S. Road, Kolkata - 700 001

Serial Circular No. 136/2017

No. E/PC-VII/2016/Policy

Kolkata, Dated: 03/10/2017

All Concerned

(as per standard list)

Sub: Clarification regarding bunching of stages in the revised pay structure under RS (PP) Rules, 2016.

Instructions of Ministry of Railways (Railway Board) issued vide their letter No. PC-VII/2016/RSRP/3 dated 27/09/2017 (S. No. PC-VII/62, RBE No.139/2017) on the above noted subject, are communicated herewith along with enclosures for information and necessary action. Board's earlier letters dated 26/09/2016 and dated 29/06/2017 mentioned therein were circulated under this office serial nos. 128/2016 and 78/2017 respectively.

DA: As above.


(U. Lahiri)

Dy. Chief Personnel Officer/R
For Chief Personnel Officer
Phone no.: 24103


03/10/17

Index No. 1057: Detailed clarifications regarding bunching of stages in the revised pay structure under RS (PP) Rules, 2016.

भारत सरकार/GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
रेल मंत्रालय/MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(रेलवे बोर्ड)/(RAILWAY BOARD)

पीसी-VII सं.- 62

फाइल सं. पीसी-VII/2016/आरएसआरपी/3

आरबीई सं. 139/2017

नई दिल्ली, दिनांक: 27.09.2017

महाप्रबंधक/मुख्य प्रशासनिक अधिकारी(आर),
सभी भारतीय रेलें एवं उत्पादन इकाइयां,
(डाक सूची के अनुसार)

विषय:- आरएस(आरपी) नियम, 2016 के अंतर्गत संशोधित वेतन संरचना में स्तरों के एकत्रण (Bunching of Stages) के संबंध में स्पष्टीकरण।

बोर्ड के दिनांक 26.09.2016 के पत्र के माध्यम से सातवें केंद्रीय वेतन आयोग में वेतन निर्धारित करते समय स्तरों के एकत्रण (Bunching of Stages) के संबंध में अनुदेश जारी किए गए थे। बाद में वित्त मंत्रालय (व्यय विभाग) के दिनांक 13.06.2017 के का.जा. सं. 1-6/2016-आईसी (पार्ट) के तहत जारी अन्तरिम स्पष्टीकरणों को देखते हुये बोर्ड के दिनांक 29.06.2017 के पत्र के माध्यम से यह सूचित किया गया था कि बोर्ड के दिनांक 26.09.2016 के पत्र में दिये गए एकत्रण (Bunching) के प्रावधानों को जहां कहीं कार्यान्वित नहीं किया गया है उन्हें उस समय तक स्थगित रखा जाए जब तक कि इस संबंध में विस्तृत स्पष्टीकरण जारी नहीं कर दिये जाते हैं ताकि इन प्रावधानों के संबंध में अलग-अलग स्पष्टीकरण जारी न करना पड़े जिनसे बाद में विसंगतियाँ/वसूलियाँ हो सकती हैं।

- अब, वित्त मंत्रालय (व्यय विभाग) द्वारा अपने दिनांक 03.08.2017 के का.जा. सं. 1-6/2016-आईसी (प्रतिलिपि संलग्न) के तहत इस विषय के संबंध में विस्तृत स्पष्टीकरण जारी किए गए हैं।
- वित्त मंत्रालय (व्यय विभाग) के दिनांक 03.08.2017 के का.जा. के तहत जारी किए गए स्पष्टीकरण आरएस(आरपी) नियम, 2016 के संदर्भ में यथोचित परिवर्तनों सहित रेलों में भी लागू होंगे।
- इस संदर्भ में उदाहरण अनुलग्नक - क एवं अनुलग्नक - ख पर संलग्न हैं।

(Handwritten signature)

(जया कुमार जी)
उपनिदेशक, वेतन आयोग-VII
रेलवे बोर्ड

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA (BHARAT SARKAR)
Ministry of Railways (Rail Mantralaya)
(Railway Board)

PC-VII No. **62**

File No. PC-VII/2016/RSRP/3

RBE No. **139**/2017

New Delhi, dated : **27**.09.2017

The General Manager/CAOs(R),
All India Railways & Production Units,
(As per mailing list)

Sub: Clarification regarding bunching of stages in the revised pay structure under RS(RP) Rules, 2016.

Instructions relating to bunching of stages while fixing the pay in 7th CPC was issued vide Board's letter dated 26.09.2016. Subsequently in view of interim clarifications issued by Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure) vide their OM No. 1-6/2016-IC (Pt.) dated 13.06.2017, it was advised vide Board's letter dated 29.06.2017 that, wherever not given effect to implementation of provision of bunching contained in Board's letter dated 26.09.2016 may be put on hold till such time detailed clarifications are issued to avoid subjective interpretation of the provisions that could result in anomalies/recoveries at a later date.

2. Now, detailed clarifications over the issue has been issued by Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure) vide their O.M No. 1-6/2016-IC dated 03.08.2017 (copy enclosed).

3. The clarifications issued by Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure) vide their O.M. dated 03.08.2017 will be applicable *mutatis mutandis* in Railways w.r.t. RS(RP) Rules, 2016.

4. Illustrations in this regard are enclosed at **Annexure-A & Annexure-B.**

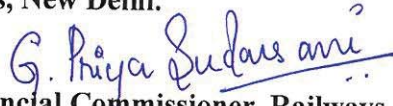

(Jaya Kumar G)

Deputy Director, Pay Commission-VII
Railway Board

File No. PC-VII/2016/RSRP/3

New Delhi, dated: **27**.09.2017

Copy (with 40 spares) forwarded to the A.D.A.I., Railways, New Delhi.


For Financial Commissioner, Railways

File No. PC-VII/2016/RSRP/3

New Delhi, dated: **27**.09.2017

Copy forwarded to:-

1. PFAs, All Indian Railways, PUs, NFR(Const).
2. The DG, National Academy of Indian Railways, Vadodara.
3. The General Manager, CORE/Allahabad
4. The Director General, RDSO, Lucknow,
5. The General Manager and FA&CAO, Metro Railway
6. The CAO and PFAs, COFMOW/New Delhi
7. The CAO(Const), MTP(R)/Mumbai
8. The CAO(MTP(R) Chennai
9. The Director, CAMTECH/Gwalior
10. The Director (a) IRIEEN, Nasik, (b) IRICEN, Pune (c) IRIMEE, Jamalpur (d) IRISSET, Secunderabad
11. The Managing Directors RITES, IRCON, CRIS, IRFC, CONCOR, RVNL, DFCCIL, KRCL.
12. The Chairman-cum-Managing Director, Konkan Railway Corporation, New Delhi.
13. The Pay & Accounts Officer, Railway Board, Rail Bhawan, New Delhi.
14. The General Secretary, IRCA/New Delhi.
15. The Commissioner, Railway Safety, Lucknow.
16. Executive Director (Finance), RDSO, Lucknow.
17. The Chairman, RCC Lok Sabha Secretariat, New Delhi.
18. The Chairman, RRT, Chennai.
19. The Chairman, RCT.
20. The Chairman RRB/Ajmer, Ahmedabad, Allahabad, Bangalore, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Chandigarh, Chennai, Calcutta, Jammu, Gorakhpur, Guwahati, Malda, Mumbai, Muzaffarpur, Patna, Ranchi, Secunderabad and Trivandrum.
21. The Editor, 'Bhartiya Rail'.
22. The Editor, 'Indian Railways'.
23. The Chairman, Passenger Services Committee.
24. The Chairman, Passenger Amenities Committee.
25. The C.A.O. (A) MTP (G)/ Mumbai (B) MTP (G)/Chennai.
26. Office of the Chief Project Administrator (Telecom), Indian Railway Central Organisation for Telecom Consultancy, Shivaji Bridge, New Delhi.
27. The Chief Mining Advisor, Ministry of Railway, Dhanbad.
28. The C.A.O. (Const.), Central Railway, Mumbai.
29. The Liaison Officer, VII CPC, All Indian Railways and PUs/RDSO/Trg. Institutes Metro Railway/COFMOW/CORE/RSC etc.
30. The Director (Movement) Railways/Calcutta.



(Jaya Kumar G)
Deputy Director, Pay Commission-VII
Railway Board

File No. PC-VII/2016/RSRP/3

New Delhi, dated: 27.09.2017

Copy forwarded to:-

1. The General Secretary, AIRF, Room No. 253, Rail Bhawan (with 35 spares)
2. The General Secretary, NFIR, Room No. 256 E, Rail Bhawan (with 35 spares)
3. Copy to all members of the National Council, Departmental Council and Secretary Staff Side, National Council, 13-C, Ferozshah Road, New Delhi (with 40 spares)
4. The Secretary General, Federation of Railway Officers' Association.
5. All India SC/ST Railway Employee's Association, Room No. 7, Rail Bhawan.
6. All India O.B.C. Railway Employee's Federation, Room No. 48, Rail Bhawan

7. The Secretary General, AIRPFA, Room No. 256-D, Rail Bhawan.
8. The Secretary General, Indian Railway Promotee Officers Federation
9. The Secretary, Railway Board Secretariat Service, Group 'A' Officers Association.
Room No. 402, Rail Bhawan.
10. The Secretary, RBSS Group 'B' Officers Association.
11. The Secretary, Railway Board Ministerial Staff Association.
12. The Secretary, Non-Ministerial Staff Association (Railway Board).



For Secretary, Railway Board

Copy to:-

PSOs/Sr.PPSs/PPSs/PSs/PAs to:-

MR, MSR(S), MSR(G), CRB, FC, MS, MT, ME, ML, MM, DG/RHS, DG/RPF, DG(Pers.), All Additional Members/Advisors/Executive Directors/Joint Secretaries.

Cash - I, II, & III, Budget, E(P&A) I & II, E(G), E(NG) I & II, PC - III, PC-IV, PC-V, PC-VI, E(LR) I & II, F(E) - I, II & III, F(E) Special, Security (E), Accounts III, ERB - I, II, III, IV, V & VI, G(Pass), G(Acc), RB(Welfare), E(SCT) I & II, E(O) I, II III & III(CC), E(GR) I & II, E(GP), E(GC), PR, branches of Railway Board.

Annexure A

Illustration to show where bunching is not applicable

Name of Person	Basic Pay in 6 th CPC as on 1.1.2016	Grade Pay in 6 th CPC	Corresponding Level of 7 th CPC	Basic pay* 2.57	Basic pay fixed on 01.01.2016 in Corresponding Level of 7 th CPC	Remarks
EXAMPLE-I						
A	15610	4600	Level 7	40117	44900	
B	16080	4600	Level 7	41325	44900	Though the difference in pay in the 6 th CPC between A&B is more than 3%, no bunching is to be provided in terms of MOF's O. M dated 03.08.2017, as the pay in 7 th CPC has been fixed in first Cell of Level 7 of the Matrix.
C	16580	4600	Level 7	42610	44900	Though the difference in pay in the 6 th CPC between A,B&C is more than 3%, no bunching is to be provided as the pay in 7 th CPC has been fixed in first Cell of Level 7 of the Matrix.
D	17080	4600	Level 7	43896	44900	Though the difference in pay in the 6 th CPC between A,B,C&D is more than 3%, no bunching is to be provided as the pay in 7 th CPC has been fixed in first Cell of Level 7 of the Matrix.

EXAMPLE -II						
A	63410	10000	Level14	162963	167200	
B	65020	10000	Level 14	167101	167200	Though the pay of A&B has been fixed in the same cell abd pay of B is more than A in 6 th CPC pay scales, bunching need not be provided as the difference in pay in the 6 th CPC between A&B is less than 3%

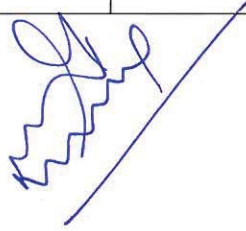
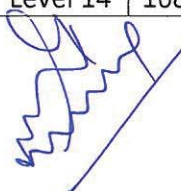


**Illustration to show where bunching to be provided in the case of Doctors who draw
Non Practising allowance.**

Name of Person	Basic Pay in 6 th CPC as on 1.1.2016	Grade Pay in 6 th CPC	Corresponding Level of 7 th CPC	25% of NPA	125%DA on NPA	Basic pay fixed on 01.01.2016 in Corresponding Level of 7 th CPC	Remarks
A	70720	10000	Level 14	14280	17850	199600	The bunching benefit needs to be provided to A as it fulfils the conditions under MoF's OM.
B	67320	10000	Level 14	16830	21038	199600	



भारतसरकार/ Government of India

वित्तमंत्रालय /Ministry of Finance

व्ययविभाग /Department of Expenditure

(कार्यान्वयनसेल, 7th के. वे. आ/ Implementation Cell, 7th CPC)

North Block, New Delhi,
3rd August, 2017

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Recommendations of the 7th Central Pay Commission (CPC) – bunching of stages in the revised pay structure under Central Civil Services (Revised Pay) Rules, 2016.

With reference to the subject mentioned above and in continuation of this Department's OM of even number dated 07.09.2016 and 13.06.2017, detailed instructions are hereby being issued on the application of the benefit on account of bunching of stages while fixing the pay in the revised pay structure as a response to a large number of references received from Ministries/Departments.

2. The provisions giving effect to the recommendations of the 7th CPC on extending the benefit on account of bunching were notified vide DoE O.M. dated 07.09.2016. Benefits on account of bunching have been extended during the initial fixation of pay in the revised pay structure while implementing the recommendations of earlier CPCs also. Bunching occurs in the fixation of pay when the pay at two or more consecutive stages in a Pay Scale/ Grade Pay in the pre revised scale get fixed at the same stage in the corresponding Pay Scale/ Level in the revised pay structure.
3. The modalities of determining the extent of bunching and the nature of benefits to be extended on account thereof, based on the recommendations of the CPCs, have differed across different Pay Commission periods. While the 5th CPC recommended that benefits be extended when more than four stages get bunched, the 6th CPC recommended that benefits be extended when two or more stages get bunched. The fitment tables drawn by the 6th CPC and notified by the Government subsequently provided for the benefit of bunching only when more than two stages were bunched. As regards the benefits to be extended on account of bunching, the 5th CPC recommended benefit of one increment for every four consecutive stages bunched, the 6th CPC recommended benefit of one increment for every two consecutive pay stages bunched. For HAG scales, however, benefit of one increment was given at each of the pay stages in the 6th CPC pay structure.
4. In terms of the DoE O.M. dated 07.09.2016 based on the 7th CPC recommendations, bunching occurs when two or more stages get bunched and benefit of one increment is to be given for every two stages bunched. These provisions are to be applied while revising the pay from the 6th CPC regime to the 7th CPC regime. In the 6th CPC pay structure, about 35 pay scales existing in the 5th CPC pay structure were

replaced by a system of running pay bands recommended by the 6th CPC. The 6th CPC pay structure consisted of 19 grades spread across four distinct pay bands and 4 distinct scales including two fixed scales. The 6th pay structure being replaced by the 7th CPC recommended Pay Matrix, thus, consists of 4 Pay Bands with 15 levels of Grade Pay, along with 4 standalone scales, viz., HAG scale, HAG+ scale, Apex scale (fixed) and the scale of Cabinet Secretary (fixed).

5. While in the 5th CPC structure, the stages in every pay scale were well defined, the stages were not well defined in the 6th CPC structure. The pay was to be fixed in the running Pay Band by rounding off to the next higher multiple of 10. Every multiple of 10 was a pay stage in the 6th CPC regime. However, all consecutive 10 rupee stages for any Grade Pay cannot be taken as consecutive stages for the purpose of bunching in reference to the 7th CPC recommendations as is also clear from the illustration contained in para 5.1.37 of the 7th CPC Report. Based on the illustration contained in para 5.1.37 of the 7th CPC Report, Department of Expenditure's O.M. dated 07.09.2016 provided that a difference of at least 3%, the rate of annual increment, in the 6th CPC pay structure was essential for counting of two stages. The 6th CPC had replaced the system of equidistant pay stages in a pay scale based on equal annual increments in the 5th CPC regime by a system of annual increment of 3% on the sum of pay in the running pay band and the Grade Pay which was to be added to the running pay as increment. Therefore, the pay stages in any given Grade Pay were specific to an employee and depended upon the initial fixation of pay in that Grade Pay. As a result, the amount of increment earned in the same Grade Pay would differ in the same Pay Scale/ Grade Pay not only between different employees but also across years for the same employee. To illustrate, an employee whose pay was fixed at Rs 46,100 in GP of 8700 in PB-4 would have the first annual increment of Rs 1390 which would be added to his running pay in the Pay Band, another employee whose pay initially was fixed at Rs 46,400 in the same Grade Pay would have the first annual increment of Rs 1400. In such a scenario where the pay stages are specific to the employee, it is not possible to arrive at universal pay stages for the purpose of determining the extent of bunching. Therefore, for the purpose of determining the extent of bunching in a system of running pay bands, the consecutive pay stages that need to be considered are the pay stages which are specific to the employee.

6. In the 5th CPC structure, the maximum and the minimum of every pay scale were well defined. In the 6th CPC structure, Entry Pay was separately notified for most Grade Pay levels to govern the entry pay of direct recruits in that level. The pay of those moving from a lower grade to a higher one on promotion was regulated in terms of provisions contained in Rule 13 of CCS (RP) Rules, 2008. As such, the Entry Pay notified for a given Pay Scale/ Grade Pay is the effective minimum of that Grade Pay for direct recruits. For an employee getting promoted, the sum of the minimum of the relevant Pay Band and the Grade Pay is the effective minimum pay. The 7th CPC, in its Report, has commented that this led to many situations where direct recruits drew higher pay as compared to personnel who reached that stage through promotion. Demands were received by the 7th CPC from many staff associations and employees for removal of this disparity which the 7th CPC refers to as differential entry pay.

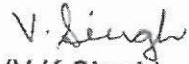
7. In the revised dispensation for pay fixation in the New Pay Structure as recommended by the 7th CPC, direct recruits shall start at the minimum pay corresponding to the level to which recruitment is made, which will be the first cell of

each level. For those promoted from the previous level, the fixation of pay in the new level will depend on the pay they were already drawing in the previous level. The pay, however, cannot be less than the first stage of the relevant level. While enumerating the benefits of migrating to the new system at para 5.1.47 of the 7th CPC Report, it has been stated that **'the issue of differential entry pay has been resolved'**. At para 5.1.36 of the 7th CPC Report it has also been mentioned that rationalization has been done with utmost care to ensure minimum bunching at most levels. Rationalization has been done by the 7th CPC through the Index of Rationalisation (IoR) which has been multiplied with the Entry Pay in the 6th CPC regime to arrive at the first cell of each level. With the Entry Pay along with IOR being used as the determiner of the first cell, pay stages below the Entry Pay have been consciously brought up to the level of Entry Pay and its corresponding pay stage in the revised pay structure. As a result, all pay stages below the Entry Pay in any Level will, on re-fixation, converge to the first pay stage in that level. As this convergence takes place on account of a conscious decision of the 7th CPC intrinsic to the architecture of the Pay Matrix by indicating the Entry Pay as the starting point of each Level, benefit on account of bunching cannot be extended with reference to pay stages lower than the Entry Pay indicated by the 7th CPC for that level in the Pay Matrix. Extending the benefit of bunching with reference to pay stages below the entry pay will perpetuate the difference in pay on account of differential Entry Pay which was addressed by the 7th CPC.

8. Based on the above, it is clarified that the following shall be kept in view while determining the extent of bunching as also the benefits to be extended on account of bunching at the time of initial fixation of pay in the 7th CPC pay structure:

- (i) Benefit on account of bunching is to be extended when two or more stages get bunched.
- (ii) Benefit of one increment is to be extended on account of bunching of every two consecutive stages.
- (iii) As stipulated in MoF OM dated 07.09.2016, a difference of 3% to be reckoned for determination of consecutive pay stages, specific to each employee.
- (iv) All pay stages lower than the Entry Pay in the 6th CPC pay structure as indicated in the Pay Matrix contained in the 7th CPC Report are not to be taken into account for determining the extent of bunching.

9. All Ministries/ Departments are advised to review all cases wherein benefit on account of bunching has been extended in terms of this Department's OM dated 07.09.2016 and to re-fix the pay in terms of the instructions contained herein.


(V.K Singh)
Director

Distribution:

1. All Ministries/Departments as per standard list.
2. NIC, D/o Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, North Block, New Delhi with a request to upload the OM on website of the Department.