

ACTUARIES TRIBUNAL (SALARIES, ALLOWANCES AND OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF PRESIDING OFFICER AND MEMBERS) RULES, 2008

In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (b) of sub-section (2) of section 55, read with sub-section (3) of section 16 of the Actuaries Act, 2006 (35 of 2006), the Central Government hereby makes the following rules, namely

1. Short title and commencement.--

- (1) These rules may be called the Actuaries Tribunal (Salaries, Allowances and Other Terms and Conditions of Presiding Officer and Members) Rules, 2008.
- (2) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

2. Definitions.--

- (1) In these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires, -
 - (a) "Act" means the Actuaries Act, 2006 (35 of 2006);
 - (b) "Aggrieved person" means a person who contested the election to the Council to which the dispute pertains;
 - (c) "Dispute" means a dispute raised by an aggrieved person arising out of the election to the Council of the Institute;
 - (d) "Election" means election to the Council held under sub-section (a) of section 12 of the Act;
 - (e) "Presiding Officer" means a person appointed as Presiding Officer, of a Tribunal under clause (a) of sub-section (2) of section 16 of the Act,
 - (f) "legal practitioner" means a person registered with the Bar Council of India or any of the State Bar Council and is eligible to appear before the Court of law;
 - (g) "Member" means a person appointed as a Member of a Tribunal under clauses (b) and (c) of sub-section (2) of section 16 of the Act, respectively, (h) "Tribunal" means the Tribunal established under sub-section (1) of section 16 of the Act.
- (2) All other words and expressions used herein and not defined in these rules but defined in the Act shall have the same meanings respectively assigned to them in the Act.

3. Terms and conditions of service of the Presiding Officer and Members of the Tribunal.--

(1) The Presiding Officer and other members of the Tribunal shall be part-time members and shall be appointed for the term of the Tribunal.

(2) The Presiding Officer or a member of the Tribunal may resign his office by a notice in writing under his hand addressed to the Central Government.

(3) The Presiding Officer and each member of the Tribunal may cease to remain the Presiding Officer or member, as the case may be, due to any of the following reasons,-

(a) Death; or

(b) Resignation; or

(c) becoming physically or mentally incapable of acting as the Presiding Officer or a Member, as the case may be ; or

(d) his being no long being eligible to be the Presiding Officer or a Member, as the case may be; or

(e) Removal by the Central Government.

(4) A casual vacancy in the Tribunal shall be filled by the Central Government, by a notification, from out of the categories in which such vacancy occurs.

4. Allowances.--

(1) The Presiding Officer and other members of the Tribunal shall be paid the following amount as allowance for each day of sitting, namely:-

(a) Presiding Officer - Rs.500;

(b) Members - Rs.400.

(2) The Central Government may revise the sitting fee or honorarium from time to time, through notification in the Official Gazette.

(3) If the Presiding Officer or Member is in employment with the Central Government or State Government, he shall not be eligible for any sitting fees but shall be eligible for a lump sum honorarium of Rs. 5000/- for the term of the Tribunal.

5. Travelling and daily Allowance.--

The Presiding Officer and other Members of the Tribunal, while on tour, shall be entitled to the travelling allowance and daily allowances as admissible to them in their official capacity and in case the Member is not a Government servant, he shall be entitled to the travelling allowance and daily allowances as admissible to an officer holding a post carrying a scale of pay of a Joint Secretary to the Government of India.

6. Meetings of Tribunal.--

(1) All meetings of the Tribunal shall be held at the headquarters of the Institute:

Provided that, if the Tribunal is of the opinion that in the interest of justice it is expedient to hold a meeting at any other place than the headquarters of the Institute, it may hold a meeting at such a place.

(2) The date and time of the meetings shall be fixed by the Presiding Officer in consultation with other Members of the Tribunal:

Provided that, a notice of not less than fifteen days before the scheduled date of every such meeting shall be given by the Presiding Officer to the other Members of the Tribunal. Secretary of the Institute and the parties involved.

(3) The quorum for transaction of business at a meeting of the Tribunal shall be two.

(4) The Presiding Officer shall preside at all the meetings of the Tribunal:

Provided that in the absence of Presiding Officer, the member appointed under clause (c) of sub-section (2) of section 16 of the Act shall chair the meeting.

(5) All questions which come up before any meeting of the Tribunal shall be decided by a majority of the members present and voting, and in the event of an equality of votes, the Presiding Officer or in his absence, the member presiding, shall have a second or casting vote.

7. Procedure to be adopted by the Tribunal.--

(1) In the discharge of its functions, the Tribunal shall be guided by the principles of natural justice, and, subject to the other provisions of the Act and these rules, the Tribunal shall regulate its own procedure:

Provided that, as far as practicable, the Tribunal shall try to ensure that a dispute is heard and decided by it within six months from the date of its constitution.

(2) Even party appearing before the Tribunal shall have the right to be represented before it by a legal practitioner or, with the permission of the Tribunal, by any other person.

(3) At the time of giving its decision, the Tribunal may,-

(a) Dismiss the application;

(b) Declare the election of all or any of the elected candidates to be void

(c) Declare the election of all or any of the elected candidates to be void and the applicant or any other candidate to have been duly elected; and

(d) May pass such order as to costs as it may consider appropriate.

(4) All orders and decisions of the Tribunal shall be authenticated by the Presiding Officer and other members of the Tribunal.

8. Powers of the Tribunal.--

(1) For the purpose of deciding a dispute under these rules, the Tribunal shall have the same powers as are vested in a Civil Court under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 in respect of the following matters, namely:-

- (a) Summoning and enforcing the attendance of any person and examining him on oath;
- (b) The discovery and production of any document;
- (c) Receiving evidence on affidavit; and
- (d) Cross-examining the witnesses produced before it.

9. Duration of the Tribunal.--

The term of the Tribunal shall be over within 15 days from the date of announcement of its decision on the dispute under reference.

10. Residuary provision.--

Matters relating to the terms and conditions of services of the Presiding Officer and other members of the Tribunal, the place of meetings and allowances, with respect to which no express provision has been made in these rules shall be referred in each case to the Central Government for its decision and the decision of the Central Government thereon shall be binding on the Tribunal, the Presiding Officer and other members.