

Public Administration Circular No. 05/92

Ministry of Public Administration,  
Provincial Councils, & Home Affairs,  
Independence Square,  
Colombo 07.

27<sup>th</sup> January 1992

To: All Secretaries to Ministries,  
Heads of Departments,  
Government Agents,  
Chief Secretaries of Provincial Councils,  
Secretaries to Governors, and  
Secretaries to Provincial Public  
Service Commissions.

**Public officers joining the Widows and Orphans  
and Widowers and Orphans Pension Scheme.**

It is compulsory that every Public Officer becomes a member of the widows' and Orphans' Pension fund from the date he is appointed to a pensionable post, in terms of the widows' and Orphans' Pension Act. It is also compulsory that Female Public Officers if appointed to a pensionable post on or after 01.08.1983 should become members of widowers' and orphans' Pension Scheme. Female Public Officers appointed to a pensionable post before 01.08.1983 are allowed to opt either to either to join or not the said scheme.

2. It has been made compulsory under section 21 of the widows' and orphans' Pension act and section 5 of Widowers' and Orphans' Pension Act that an initial declaration for membership and other relevant documents could be forwarded to the Department of Pensions within three months.

3. However, it is seen that many officers delay obtaining of their membership numbers until they go on retirement. There has been an undue delay in preparation of pension application as the membership number of widows and orphans or widowers and orphans Pensions scheme is required for this. similarly as a result of not obtaining this number, preparation of widows and orphans and Widowers and Orphans Pension has got delayed when preparing pensions to the beneficiaries of officers who died while on duty.

4. Due to these reasons, relevant authorities should take action to get the Form General 86 A in case of Male officers and Form General 86A in case of Female officers duly filled up on the first day of appointment to pensionable post and forwarded them to the Secretary and Accountant of the Widows and Orphans Pension Office promptly.

Sgd:R.Abeyratne  
Secretary,  
Ministry of Public Administration,  
Provincial Councils & Home Affairs.