



DEFENCE FORCE WELFARE ASSOCIATION

A member of the Alliance of Defence Service Organisations

3 November 2014

MEDIA STATEMENT

GOVERNMENT THANKS ADF MEMBERS BY REDUCING PAY

First our disabled veterans were hit by the 2014 -15 Federal Budget proposal to wind back hard won Veterans' Disability Pensions indexation arrangements to the CPI only. In doing this the Government conveniently brushed aside its emphatic statements made as recently as two months ago, that use of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) only to index veterans' pensions was simply unfair.

Now we learn of the Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal decision today agreeing with the Government's proposal to award our serving ADF members an insultingly low annual increase of 1.5% a year over the next three years. This so called increase represents barely half the expected annual inflation rate and an even lesser proportion of the expected rise of annual living costs over the three-year period of the Arrangement.

The DFWA National President Colonel David Jamison (Rtd) said, "it is a strange way to reward ADF members for their dedication and hard work especially as the Government has just dispatched a new contingent to the ongoing Middle East conflicts". "To add further insult" David went on to say, "was that ADF members were being required to give up some leave and travel entitlements to get the so-called rise, and this when the Defence budget papers showed funding cover for an increase at least matching inflation was already there. The PM must intervene to direct a fair outcome for our serving ADF members and restore the integrity of the ADF pay fixing system".

Contacts

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