# ALL INDIA BHARAT SANCHAR NIGAM LIMITED EXECUTIVES' ASSOCIATION



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No. AIBSNLEA/CHQ/Member (Fin)/2014

To.

Ms. Annie Moraes

Member (Finance)
Telecom Commission, Department of Telecommunication
Sanchar Bhavan, 20, Ashoka Road
New Delhi – 110001

**President** 

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Subject: 78.2% IDA merger for pensioners

# Respected Madam,

Kindly recall our discussion on the issue mentioned above on 26-05-2014 afternoon. What we understand after the discussion is that since for the BSNL pensioners, pension revision order effecting 68.8% IDA merger was issued after separate cabinet approval, for 78.2 % IDA merger also fresh cabinet approval may be required. Other point in support of fresh cabinet approval is that, when the pension revision order by 68.8% IDA merger was issued on 15-03-2011, already 78.2% IDA merger was approved. Still cabinet approved only 68.8% IDA merger for pensioners on 15-03-2011. However DoT may opine that fresh cabinet approval is not be required as 78.2% IDA merger is approved by cabinet, while replying the queries by Department of Expenditure.

### Madam,

In this context we would like to point out that the pensioners who are deprived of the 78.2% IDA merger are basically divided into two groups:

- Employees retired before 1-1-2007 (pre 2007 pensioners)
- Employees retired from 1-1-2007 to 09-06-2013 (post 2007 pensioners)

The pension revision order dated 15-03-2011, affecting the benefit of 68.8% IDA merger with 30% fixation, was applicable only to the pre 2007 pensioners. For this group, now an amendment of the said pension revision order dated 15-03-2011 is required amending the merger amount from 68.8% to 78.2%. We feel that as 78.2% IDA merger is approved for all, there is no need of any further cabinet approval.

For the second group (post 2007 pensioners), the pension revision order dated 15-03-2011 is not applicable. For them the issue is not pension revision but pay revision as on 1-1-2007 by merging 78.2% IDA, which will revise their last pay drawn on date of retirement and subsequently the pension amount. It may kindly be recalled that the 2<sup>nd</sup> PRC order with merger of 68.8% IDA was issued on 27-02-2009 but the date of effect was 1-1-2007. The employees who retired between 1-1-2007 to 27-02-2009 did not get any difficulty to get their revised pension, as their pay was actually revised from 1-1-2007 which ultimately revised

their actual last pay drawn and then the pension. No separate order was required for them. Actually they got their benefit almost along with the serving employees. But the other group (pre 2007 pensioners) got the benefit much later after issue of 15-03-2011 order.

But now, as per 78.2% IDA merger order dated 10-06-2013, although the pay is revised from 1-1-2007 but no arrears to be paid up to 09-06-2013. As a result the last pay drawn of the employees retired between 1-1-2007 to 09-06-2013 can only be notionally revised, as per order dated 10-06-2013 but cannot be actually paid. As pension is 50% of actual last pay drawn, their pension cannot be revised which was not the case while affecting earlier order dated 27-02-2009.

The original proposal sent by DoT to DoP&PW was for relaxation of the pension rules, so that for this post 2007 pensioners revised pension may be made effective based on notionally fixed last pay on their date of retirement. We understand that DoP&PW has approved the proposal along with other points of the proposal subject to approval of DoE. Now as because in the clarifications sought be DoE as it has only asked about any precedence of such fixation, which is there, we feel that DoT may settle the issue of post 2007 pensioners with any further referral to cabinet.

As explained above, the context of both the pensioners group is different for extending the benefit of 78.2% IDA merger from 1-1-2007. Hence the case may be accordingly dealt and necessary orders issued at the earliest

With Kind regards,

Sincerely yours
-sd(Prahlad Rai)
General Secretary

### **Encls:**

- 1. Pension Revision order dated 15-03-2011
- 2. 2<sup>nd</sup> PRC order dated 27-02-2009

## Copy along with enclosures to:

- 1. Member (Services), Telecom Commission, DoT, Govt. of India, Sanchar Bhawan, 20, Ashok Road, New Delhi –
- 2. Shri S.K. Tiwari, DDG (LF-II), DoT, Govt. of India, Sanchar Bhawan, 20, Ashok Road, New Delhi 110001.