

**ALL INDIA
RETIED BHARAT SANCHAR NIGAM LIMITED EXECUTIVES' WELFARE ASSOCIATION
Central Headquarters, New Delhi**



**Key Note Address delivered by Shri Prahlad Rai, General Secretary, AIRBSNLEWA
in the Open Session of CWC on 24th February 2026**

It is indeed a matter of great pride and privilege for me to have such a distinguished gathering on the occasion of the Open Session of Central Working Committee meeting of our Association i.e. All India Retired Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited Executives' Welfare Association held on 24.2.2026 this CWC is being held at Lucknow, U P East, the city of Nawabs. I on behalf of AIRBSNLEWA and also on my personal behalf welcome the Chief Guest, Guests of Honour, Special Guests, and all our esteemed comrades who have joined us from throughout the country.

This Association AIRBSNLEWA was registered on 11th November 2010 at New Delhi with the active efforts of Comrade Kishan Singh ji as General Secretary, Com. M L Sharma ji as President and Com. K N Mehra ji as Financial Secretary and with the active support of Com. Prahlad Rai as GS AIBSNLEA. Thereafter, CWCs/AICs of AIRBSNLEWA were regularly conducted as and when CWCs/AICs of AIBSNLEA were held at Kolkata, Nashik, Mysuru and Vijayawada. AIRBSNLEWA has started holding its CWCs / AICs independently since August 2022 onwards without support of any association of working employees. This shows the Growth & strength of our Association. Unlike some of the other retired associations, we have foreseen the need of such association for the retirees, long back. This was due to the reason that while working as the General Secretary of the AIBSNLEA of working executives, it was noticed that many of the pensioners are struggling after their retirement to settle various grievances in their old age. Accordingly initiative was taken to form the AIRBSNLEWA at CHQ level by extending all the supports from AIBSNLEA which was led by myself. Though AIRBSNLEWA is enrolling retired executives as life members, but the non-executives are also being enrolled as Associate members.

Our representatives in this CWC, who are the true representatives of BSNL Pensioners and Family Pensioners and have come to attend this conference from every nook & corner of the country-from Kashmir to Kanyakumari and Lakshadweep to Andaman & Nicobar. We have assembled here, to discuss and find out ways and means for the welfare of the BSNL Pensioners and also growth of our Association.

This open session is also historical and unique in the sense that the CHQ leadership of AIRBSNLEWA along with their large no of Circle leaders and members throughout the country is attending on our invitation. This is unique in the history of Pensioners Associations." It will strengthen the unity of our Pensioners and family pensioners which will safeguard the interest of entire pensioners community of BSNL / MTNL Pensioners and Family Pensioners and will help in the growth of our Association.

As a Pensioners association we cannot remain silent spectator to the problems of our pensioners and family pensioners. As already stated, our pensioners are frustrated due to non-settlement of the following long pending grievances:

We all the pensioners were in the impression that once we retire from services our grievances will be over once for all and we will be getting the pension regularly at par with other Central Govt. Pensioners based on the assurance given by the Govt. at the time of formation of BSNL for the Govt. Pension by introducing 37-A to the CCS Pension Rules 1972.

However, our grievances are increasing and the situation is getting deteriorated day by day due to the negative approach and malafide intention of the officers working in the DoT towards the BSNL / MTNL Pensioners that is as under:

1. Pension Revision of BSNL/MTNL pensioners:-

We the BSNL/MTNL retirees drawing pension from the Consolidated Fund of Government of India under Rule-37A of CCS Pension Rules 1972. Our pension has not been revised which is due from 1.1.2017, whereas our counterpart DoT pensioners' pension has already been revised w.e.f. 1.1.2016.

AIRBSNLEWA continuously persuaded with the DoT administration for revision of pension of BSNL/MTNL pensioners w.e.f. 1.1.2017. While the pension of the Govt. servants are revised on completion of every 10 years, the pension revision of the BSNL/MTNL pensioners was done on 1.1.2007, that is 19 years ago.

There are about 4 lakh BSNL/MTNL pensioners / family pensioners, including the VRS as on 31.1.2020, who were officers and employees of BSNL/MTNL and were all absorbed from DoT on 1.10.2000 with the specific assurance that they would be treated at par with the Govt. employees in the matter of pension. This assurance was specifically incorporated into Rule 37-A of the CCS (Pension) Rules 1972 promulgated under Article 309 of the Constitution of India, 1950 and in terms of which they said employees were entitled to the applicable Govt. scheme of Pension / Family pension even after their absorption into BSNL

These Pensioners were Govt. servants holding civil post in DoT under Govt. of India prior to their absorption in BSNL/MTNL and as such were safeguarded under Article 311 of the Constitution of India and governed by the CCS pension Rules 1972 for pension / family pension.

Though the 7th pay commission report has been implemented for all the Central Govt. employees, Pensioners & Family pensioners, except the pension revision and minimum pension, all other conditions of the 7th CPC like calculation of pension, additional pension with maturity of age, qualifying service for full pension, commutation, limit of Gratuity, Family Pension and Leave encashment amount, etc. has been implemented for BSNL employees and pensioners. Even, medical facilities under CGHS available to the Central Govt. employees / pensioners are also extended to BSNL/MTNL Pensioners. As regards the pension revision, it is misconceived that the 7th CPC report is not applicable to IDA pensioners and it is linked with the revision of pay of BSNL/MTNL employees.

After the pension revision of the Central Govt. Employees as per the 7th CPC, the minimum pension of a Group D employees retired from Govt. service is Rs.9000/-, whereas, the minimum pension of a Group D employee retired from BSNL/MTNL is Rs.3500/-. Many retired executives and non-executives are drawing less pension than their counter parts retired from Govt. Departments, due to the non-revision of the pension of BSNL MTNL pensioners.

During December 2015, with our active pursuation, DoT had sent a request to the nodal Ministry for CPSUs to add revision of pensionary benefits of BSNL & MTNL Pensioners as terms of reference of 3rd PRC and it is evident from this fact that the Govt. has made its intention of Pension Revision of BSNL pensioners w.e.f. 1.1.2017. However, due to skeptical negative approach of few of the DoT officers, the case not been processed further.

It is understood that DoT is of the opinion that in case the pension of the existing pensioners retired prior to 1.1.2017 are revised, their revised pension would become higher than the pension to be fixed on retirement of the existing employees retiring after 1.1.2017. This would create an anomaly in BSNL / MTNL as the pensioners retired prior to 1.1.2017 would be getting more pension than the retiring pensioners. However, in case of such anomaly occurs between Pre-2017 and post 2017 combined service pensioners of BSNL/MTNL, it will be limited to few more years as almost all the employees

absorbed in BSNL/MTNL from DoT/DTS/DTO and eligible for combined service pension under Rule 37-A of CCS (Pension) Rules 1972 will retire by the next Pay revision which is due in 2027. In case such anomaly arises, it can be settled by giving notional pay revision for the BSNL serving employees w.e.f. 1.1.2017 without creating any additional financial liability for BSNL. This has also been agreed by DoP&W.

In case pension of the BSNL/MTNL pensioners / Family pensioners are not revised due to the illogical reasons, then, there will never be any pension revision of BSNL/MTNL Pensioners / Family pensioners in the times to come since, pension is only for the BSNL/MTNL absorbees and in the coming few years, there will be no BSNL/MTNL absorbees left, as all would have retired and the BSNL/MTNL pensioners / Family pensioners will continue with the existing pension in their entire life time in the rising inflation.

Pension revision and pay revision have no relation whatsoever in so far as the combined service BSNL pensioners are concerned, since the pension of the latter is to be borne by the Govt. by virtue of Rule 22 of Rule 37-A of the CCS (Pension) Rules 1972. Further, DoT vide O.M. dated 9.11.2000 categorically mentioned that the employees of DoT who will be absorbed in BSNL will be entitled to the Govt. scheme of pension/family pension even after their absorption in BSNL. Non revision of pension of BSNL / MTNL pensioners will tantamount to discrimination by DoT amongst the retired BSNL/MTNL pensioners and the Govt. Servants. As such it would be improper to link pensionary benefits with the financial status of the BSNL/MTNL especially after their retirement, as they do not and cannot contribute to the financial growth of BSNL.

At the time of absorption by BSNL/MTNL the combined service BSNL/MTNL pensioners were assured that their status as a Govt. servant upon retirement is not hindered on account of being absorbed in BSNL/MTNL, which is the reason to amend the Rule 37 of CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972 by insertion of Rule 37-A.

The pension contribution of all the combined service BSNL pensioners has already been made to DoT as per the provisions of Rule 37-A and that too of the maximum of their pay scales and at this stage, when the BSNL pensioners, who are senior citizens with a legitimate expectation to reap the benefits of their service, are being with held, which otherwise would not have happened, had these BSNL combined service pensioners would have opted to remain in Govt. service.

We are the senior citizens of our country and we have contributed our whole service period for the sake of the DoT / BSNL/MTNL and our nation and now, it is quite unfortunate to deprive the legitimate right of the BSNL/MTNL pensioners of their pension revision at par with other pensioners.

We the pensioners and family pensioners would therefore demand the immediate intervention of the Hon. MoC, Secretary Telecom & the concerned officers of DoT, and an early revision of pension/family pension w.e.f. 1.1.2017, as per 7th CPC recommendation by delinking it from pay revision of BSNL serving employees so that we may get justice which is being denied by DOT since long.

In the case of Pension Revision, AIRBSNLEWA has filed OA No 1272 of 2020 in the PBCAT New Delhi on pension revision of BSNL pensioners in the month of August 2020 and due to our continuous pursuation, finally, our efforts got succeeded with the support of all of you and the **Hon. PBCAT, New Delhi has delivered its judgement on Pension Revision in our favour.**

We immediately filed a Caveat in the Hon. High Court, New Delhi with respect to the PBCAT judgement to protect our interest, in case the DoT decides to appeal in the High Court. DoT finally filed a writ petition in the Hon. High Court Delhi to quash the Hon. PBCAT judgement in pension revision case of BSNL / MTNL pensioners. But, Hon. High Court Delhi didn't stayed the Hon. PBCAT judgement nor issued notices to respondents during 6-7 hearings. In the hearing on 21st December, 2024 Hon. High Court Delhi issued notices to the respondents. Thus, the contempt petition filed by us in the PBCAT New Delhi was disposed off in view of the writ petition

pending in the Hon. High Court Delhi. Now, the next hearings will take place on 30.3.2026 in the Hon. High Court Delhi and the judgement will be awaited. Thus, it is understood that, even if the judgement comes in favour of the DoT or applicants, either party will be filing SLP in the Hon. Supreme Court. In view of this we have to mobilise legal funds to fight legally upto the level of Hon. Apex Court.

We the BSNL /MTNL pensioners and family pensioners strongly demand the MoC/ Secretary Telecom and also with all the relevant officers of DoT/DoP&W to implement the said PBCAT judgement immediately. Also request to Shri Shiv Gopal Mishra ji Secretary NJCM to take up this issue in the National JCM as one of the agenda item for its resolution.

2. Withdrawal of 60:40 ratio provision from Rule 37-A.

At the time of absorption to ensure Govt. pension from the Consolidated Fund of Govt. of India for the pensioners of BSNL / MTNL, Rule 37-A was incorporated in the CCS Pension Rules on 30.9.2000. Subsequently DoT officers incorporated a clause of 60:40 condition with the approval of Cabinet in the year 2005, wherein if the receipts from BSNL is less than 60%, the pension will not be paid. This information was not aware to none of the pensioners or pensioners associations and came to the knowledge of AIRBSNLEWA when Com Late Amit Gupta ji sought information under RTI Act in 2015. Accordingly the same was taken up by the AIRBSNLEWA and pursued with DoT and after lot of persuasion DoT prepared a cabinet note to withdraw the 60:40 clause from Rule 37-A. Accordingly, the clause of 60:40 was removed from Rule 37A as per the Cabinet decision in the year 2016. Thus, BSNL /MTNL pensioners are drawing uninterrupted pension due to the timely efforts of AIRBSNLEWA.

3. Formation of 8th Pay Commission for Central Government Employees and Pensioners by the Govt. of India

8th Central Pay Commission was announced on 15.1.2025 by Union Minister Shri Ashwini Vaishnav. But, even after 8 months, it was officially formed only on 28.10.2025. VIII Central Pay Commission was appointed on 28th October 2025, with Justice (Retd) Smt. Ranjana Prakash Desai as Chairperson, Prof. Pulak Ghosh as Part-time Member and Shri Pankaj Jain (Secretary, Petroleum) as Member Secretary. The Govt. of India has also announced its ToR. This time well in advance we along with other like minded pensioners associations tried to include the pension revision of BSNL / MTNL pensioners in the ToR. This matter was taken with the nodal Departments of Govt. of India. It is understood that DoT's comments is called for on this issue, but DoT played a negative roll in this regard to shut down the issue. We still making our sincere efforts to pursue this matter with the assurance given by Com. Shiv Gopal Mishra, Secretary, JCM (NC) for taking up our issue with the CPC whenever the opportunity comes. Accordingly we have taken up the pension revision issue of BSNL / MTNL for inclusion in the ToR of 8th CPC as under.

Grounds for inclusion of Pension revision of BSNL / MTNL pensioners in the ToR of 8th CPC

In addition to the justifications mentioned above under clause pension revision, it is needless to mentioned that in accordance with the 6th CPC, Pension of BSNL/MTNL pensioners was revised w.e.f. 01.01.2007 as per Cabinet Decision dated 29.12.2010, recognising the principle that pension must be periodically revised to protect its real value. It is mentioned in the said cabinet decision that the revision fitment factor of 2.194, slightly lower than 2.26 applicable to Central Government pensioners, was adopted solely to avoid anomalies vis-à-vis post-2007 retirees, whose pay was revised on 01.01.2007 with fitment factor of 2.194.

Under Rule 37-A of CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972 / Rule 37 of CCS (Pension) Rules, 2021, pensionary benefits of BSNL/MTNL pensioners are a Central Government obligation, payable from the Consolidated Fund of India, wholly governed by the CCS Pension Rules and administered by DoT.

BSNL have duly remitted pension contributions to DoT at the maximum of the payment scale.

When the 7th CPC was constituted in 2014, pensioners' associations of BSNL/MTNL repeatedly sought explicit inclusion of pension revision in its ToR by submitting Memoranda and oral evidence. The Commission, including its Chairman Justice A.K. Mathur, reportedly found prima facie merit in the demand and sought comments from DoT in January 2015.

DoT, however, sent its response only in August 2015, by which time the 7th CPC had finalised its recommendations and the issue of pension revision of BSNL/MTNL pensioners was could not be included in the ToR of the 7th CPC.

Thereafter, DoT routed the issue through DPE for inclusion in the ToR of 3rd PRC (December 2015, F. No. 47-63/2015-Pen(T)), but DPE declined, presumably, as CCS Pension Rules are outside the purview of PRCs.

DoT denied pension revision which fell due w.e.f. 01.01.2017, by linking pension revision to affordability and financial performance of BSNL/MTNL even though pension is 100% paid by the Government from the Consolidated Fund of India.

Aggrieved by this arbitrary denial, the Associations approached the Hon'ble Principal Bench, CAT, New Delhi, which delivered a favourable judgment dated 20.09.2023 directing pension revision. DoT has not implemented the judgment and has instead filed a Writ Petition before the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi in 2024.

AIRBSNLEWA CHQ has written a letter to Shri Narendra Modiji, Hon. Prime Minister of India, for kind consideration to make a terms of reference for pension revision of BSNL / MTNL pensioners of this 8th Pay Commission. This CWC can discuss and recommend the actions to be taken by the CHQ in this regard.

4. National Co-ordination Committee of Pensioners Associations (NCCPA) and Forum of Civil Pensioners Associations (FCPA).

We AIRBSNLEWA is the part of NCCPA and FCPA, both are representing all sections of Central Govt. pensioners all over India and looking after and protecting the interest of the pensioners. These organisations are strongly protesting against the wrong policies of the Govt. which are harming the interest of CG pensioners. Series of protest actions in terms of Massive Dharna, Mass Rally, Demonstration, Post card Campaign, Human Chain, etc. have been organized very successfully throughout the country to protest against the arbitrary decision of the Govt. for example Validation of CCA Pension Rules in the Finance Bill 2025, delay in formation of 8th CPC and its ToR. In the ToR there is no mention regarding pension revision of Central Govt. pensioners, whereas earlier in the 7th CPC ToR, the pension revision was also a point of consideration. Against this Validation Act, NCCPA has filed the SLP in the Hon. Supreme Court which has been admitted and legal proceedings are continuing. AIRBSNLEWA is also one of the party in the SLP. In the all the organisational action programs call given by NCCPA / FCPA, AIRBSNLEWA members are very actively participating throughout the country. It's a long struggle, where AIRBSNLEWA will be actively participating. Rs.100000/- as legal fund support has already been given to the NCCPA CHQ in filing the court case in the Hon. Supreme Court. Com. Shri Shiv Gopal Mishra ji, Secretary, NJCM and President of NCCPA and Com K. Raghavendra, Secretary General of NCCPA are maintaining very Cordial relationship and taking care of our issues and I take this opportunity to thank both the leaders. We assure our fullest support and co-operation.

5. Implementation of DPE order for Payment of 78.2% wef 1.1.2007 to May -2013 which is pending since long.

We BSNL/MTNL pensioners are also suffering from non-payment of IDA fitment benefit of 78.2% w.e.f. 1.1.2007 to May 2013 which is pending since long, by not implementing the DPE guideline on the subject matter in its true spirit. The 78.2% IDA fitment benefits, it was due to BSNL/MTNL pensioners w.e.f.

1.1.2007. But, it has been paid to the BSNL pensioners from June 2013 onwards only. Therefore, the arrears from 1.1.2007 to May 2013 are required to be paid to the BSNL pensioners. Therefore, we demand the immediate implementation of DPE order in its true spirit.

AIRBSNLEWA members numbering about 500 filed O.A. in the PBCAT New Delhi in the name of our Association demanding IDA arrears payment w.e.f. 1.1.2007 instead of June 2013. The case could not be heard physically in the Hon. PBCAT New Delhi for the last 3 years due to Covid-19 Pandemic condition Now physical hearing have started, and waiting the outcome of writ petition pending in the Hon. High Court, Delhi.

Further, about 1200 members of AIRBSNLEWA filed the case in the PBCAT New Delhi on behalf of AIRBSNLEWA which was dismissed by the PBCAT New Delhi. Against the said dismissal, AIRBSNLEWA CHQ filed writ petition in the Hon. High Court, New Delhi and its next hearing scheduled on 26.2.2026.

6. Notional increment benefit to the members who retired on 30th June or completed one year of Service on the day of their retirement.

As per the judgements from various courts including the Apex Court, the annual increment due on completion of 1 year service is to be granted to those who retired after completion of one year service as on the date of retirement. However, inspite of our repeated requested DoT/ BSNL management did not considered the same on the ground that the judgements are for individuals/applicants only and cannot be generalized since the DOP&T upon receipt of the latest judgement from the APEX court on this subject. Now the necessary order have bee issued by the DoP&T /DoT and BSNL management.

7. Pay fixation case of JAOs of 1996 batch.

Though the matter was taken up by the AIBSNLEA / AIRBSNLEWA long back, as of now none of the Association of working executives are interested to pursue the matter. Due to its non-implementation, many pensioners affected and drawing less pension. Hon. APEX has delivered a fouvourable judgement for pay fixation of JAO of 1996 batch. Accordingly, we have demanded the DoT/ BSNL management to immediate implement the Hon. Supreme Court judgement and revise the pay scale of all the eligible pensioners with immediate effect.

8. Restructuring of Civil / Electrical / Arch / Telecom Factory / PA - PS w.e.f. 1.10.2000 instead of later on date.

Though BSNL was formed in the w.e.f. 1.10.2000 and all the executives were absorbed w.e.f. 1.10.2000, the officers those who were working in the then pay scale of 5500-9000 were subsequently restructured under cadre restructuring and the effect of re-structured pay scales was given on different dates for different cadre of Civil / Electrical / Architecture / Telecom Factory / PA -PS, AD OL, etc. This resulted all the executives in the cadre got pay fixation from same date and hence all are drawing the same scale irrespective of their number of years of services. This ultimately resulted Seniors and Juniors drawing the same scale and pay w.e.f. the date of restructuring, through their pay was different prior to the restructuring. This created unrest amongst the seniors and still the unrest continues with the pensioners as both the seniors having more than 15-20 years of service is drawing the same pension as their juniors. Therefore, we demand that the effect of the re-structuring be given with effect from the date of absorption 1.10.2000 and notional fixation be granted to remove the anomaly amongst the pensioners with immediate effect. We demand immediate action in this regard.

9. BSNL MRS / Pending Medical Claims.

Medical re-imbusement to the BSNL Pensioners was not been cleared by the BSNL management and the priority is being given to the working employees only. We also request CMD BSNL to bring BSNL pensioners' medical claims online instead of offline like BSNL serving employees so that every month

medical claims are paid to BSNL pensioners also at par with the working employees. We protest against the reduction of number of days from 15 to 12 for the purpose of entitlement by BSNL Corporate office. We further request the BSNL to regularize cash payment against Out Door treatment to BSNL pensioners those who have opted cash payment under BSNL MRS.

10. CGHS facilities

We have requested for opening of more CGHS Wellness Centres in various cities including Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Jaipur & Rajkot, etc. in the heavily populated areas. The existing WCs do not have sufficient Doctors and specialized staff and branded medicines. We demand that sufficient Doctors and trained staff may be posted in the existing CGHS Wellness Centres, and new CGHS Wellness Centres at all District Head Quarters of every State.

11. Improper Implementation of Rule 206 as per Supreme Court Judgment: regarding TES Group B officers seniority.

In rule 206 case the issue pertains to the seniority of JTO on promotion to the next higher post of sub divisional engineer/ Assistant engineer in BSNL. So all the antedated notional promotion must be allowed/ extended from JTO to SDE , followed by SDE to Ado AGM then to Regular AGM and Regular AGM to Adhoc DGM from the date it was allowed to the juniors. Instead of implementation of decision of Hon'ble Supreme Court in letter & spirit, BSNL try to mislead and allowing only Regular AGM promotions without considering JTO to SDE , SDE to Sr SDE, Sr SDE to Adhoc AGM, which is in violation to the Hon'ble Supreme Court decisions.

BSNL is deviating from a very clear cut direction and trying to avoid the judgments by rearranging promotions as per the new seniority list and year wise available vacancies which is not at all in line with these judgments and directions. We demand for true implementation of Hon. Supreme Court judgement by granting notional promotion from a date our juniors were promoted in SDE, AGM and DGM cadres with resultant notional pay fixation & pay the resultant financial benefit from 01.01.2018.

On several occasions we met PGM (Pers), Director (HR) and CMD BSNL and requested for the correct implementation of Rule 206 as per the Judgement of Hon'ble Supreme court for SDEs seniority, wherein PGM Pers. BSNL CO informed that BSNL CO has conducted review DPCs and re-casted the SDEs seniority. We further explained that re-casted SDE seniority is not in the true spirit of Hon'ble Supreme court judgment. Against this improper implementation of Hon. Supreme Court judgement on Rule 206, some aggrieved persons filed contempt petition in the Hon. Supreme Court, but the same was dismissed. Now the management of BSNL is continuing with review DPCs. The matter is being regularly persuaded with CMD BSNL and Secretary Telecom in the informal meetings, but still remains unresolved. As GS AIBSNLEA, I have filed a MA for clarification in the Hon. Supreme Court which is still pending for hearing after the AIC Kolkata, it was decided to pursue this MA for hearing in the Hon. Supreme Court by AIRBSNLEWA CHQ. Accordingly the matter was mentioned in the Hon. Supreme court listed for hearing in the month of June 2024, but due to leave vacation, the matter was adjourned. Now the matter is further to be mentioned for which we have to appoint an Advocate for pleading the case in the Hon. Supreme Court. As per AIC Kolkata decision, Com Jairam AGS was given the responsibility to mobilize the legal funds on this account, but so far sufficient funds has not been mobilized. Thus, case could not be mentioned in the Hon. Supreme Court. We demand immediate implementation of judgement by BSNL in its true spirit

12. Reduction in the commutation period from 15 years to 10 years and 8 months:-

In view of the continues reduction in the Interest rate from Banks the commutation period of pensioners should be reduced from 15 years to 10 years 8 months as demanded in the National JCM by staff side and recommended from parliamentary standing committee to the Ministry of Finance. Accordingly many pensioners filed court cases in various tribunals and got the favourable judgement to stop

commutation recovery after completion of 10 years 8 months. DoT pensioners also filed the case in the Hon. CAT Chandigarh and got the favourable judgment, but DoT is yet to implement the CAT order. AIRBSNLEWA CHQ took up the matter with Secretary DoT for the implementation of Hon. CAT Chandigarh judgment. But, hereafter some court judgement has come differently disallowing the reduction of commutation period from 15 years to 10 years and 8 months with reference to earlier Supreme Court judgement.

13. Increase in pension by 5% after 65 years, 10% after 70 years, 15% after 75 years and 20% after 80 years age.

Staff side in the National JCM has demanded the above 5% increase in the pension after every five years on completion of the 65- years , 70 years,75 years and 80- years age. Matter is under consideration to the Government of India. We request Shri Shiv Gopal Mishra Ji , Secretary NJCM to strongly pursue the matter for an early decision.

14. Income Tax refund on the Ex-gratia payment of VRS 2019 optees and its judgement by various Income Tax Tribunals.

BSNL has issued orders for exemption of 5 lakhs from the ex-gratia payments to the VRS optees and some pensioners individually and collectively has approached various I T tribunals for complete exemption of Income Tax payment on the ex-gratia amount and some pensioners had got relief in their favour from various Income Appellate Tribunals. The refund by the Income Tax Tribunals are evident that BSNL management has mis-interpreted IT Act and mis-guided the VRS optees which resulted in deduction of heavy amount of Income Tax from the Ex-gratia payment. We demand all the VRS 2019 optees should be refunded the Income Tax amount collected from the Ex-gratia payment immediately.

15. Conclusion

Hon'ble Sirs, our intention is definitely not to burden you with our pensioners problems. What precisely we want to convey to our esteemed audience and the dignitaries sitting on the dais, is that we the pensioners had served the organisation during their good times and now at the fag end of their life, all these senior citizens and super senior citizens are expecting a reasonable genuine approach by the Govt. to resolve the above issues of BSNL / MTNL Pensioners.

Now, while concluding, I thank you all for giving me a patient hearing and at the same time we reaffirm our resolve that we shall not be found wanting in discharging our responsibilities even in the new environment and will move forward alongwith all of you to make AIRBSNLEWA CHQ of our dreams, a reality. We also reassure our esteemed Pensioners and Family Pensioners, we will do everything at its disposal to ensure the best possible services in terms of proper medical facilities and "Pension & Family Pension".

Thank you all,


(PrahladRai)
General Secretary