



ALL INDIA
RETIRED BHARAT SANCHAR NIGAM LIMITED EXECUTIVES' WELFARE ASSOCIATION
CENTRAL HEAD QUARTERS, NEW DELHI

Regn. No. S/00108/NE-/2010

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No.AIRBSNLEWA/CMD/2023/

Dated 15th March 2023

To

Shri P K Purwar ji
CMD BSNL
New Delhi-110001

Sub: Constraints faced by BSNL Pensioners covered under EPF Pension Scheme while submission of the Joint option for EPF higher pension – requesting intervention from BSNL under the capacity of their Employer - reg.

Respected Sir,

As you are aware, the Hon'ble apex court vide its judgement dated 04-11-2022 has ordered granting of higher pension to those employees who were contributing EPF subscriptions on their actual salary and who could not submit their higher option under Clauses 11(3) and 11(4) of EPS Scheme. Accordingly, the affected EPF pensioners have to submit their Joint Option duly signed by BSNL as employer and the pensioner as employee through the unified online portal of EPFO on or before 3rd May 2023.

When the pensioners attempted for its submission, EPFO insists for the proof of the mandatory permission issued by EPFO to BSNL for the Joint Option as stipulated under para 26(6) of EPF Scheme. Actually, this permission would have been obtained by BSNL at the time of receiving and regularizing their monthly EPF contributions while they were in service. Though, BSNL was contributing on actual salary basis the stipulated permission appears to be omitted which was to be obtained well in advance from EPFO. In the absence of this permission, which would have been obtained by BSNL from EPFO, the pensioners are unable to submit their option for higher pension. Thus, the EPF Pensioners are put into unnecessary trouble for the above omission of BSNL for which they are in no way responsible.

As the last date prescribed for the submission of option is approaching fast, it is requested to kindly look into this issue of EPF Pensioners which is applicable for serving employees as well and take up the matter with EPFO immediately under the capacity of their employer and resolve the issue of at the earliest please.

With kind regards;

Yours Sincerely

(Prahlad Rai)

General Secretary AIRBSNLEWA

Copy to: 1. The Director (HR), BSNL, New Delhi
2. The General Manager (Admn), BSNL CO, New Delhi