

FUTURE PENSION REVISION IN BSNL

Some people wrote to Secretary, Telecom in 2015 that future pension revision in BSNL should be through 7th CPC. Thereafter, they changed their stand. They demanded PRC. Government did not accept their demand. Government did not change the Terms of Reference of third PRC. Pension Revision is not in the terms of reference. Still, these people went and submitted their memorandum to PRC on 8th August 2016. Very next day, on 9th August 2016, they wrote another letter to Secretary, Telecom asking for benefits through CPC. The Telecom Commission may be perplexed to see this overturns very often.

Understand the realities:

- There is no Defined Benefit Scheme in CPSEs and it is only Defined Contributory Scheme.
- In CPSEs pension is constant and there is no pension revision.
- There is a DPE guideline that the "superannuation benefits should not exceed 30% of Pay + DA". That is why PRCs are recommending the same.
- Department of Public Enterprises conducted a workshop at Hyderabad on 19/11/2012 and the topic was "Pension Schemes in CPSEs". Nearly 15 CPSEs participated in that workshop and gave presentations.

Certain aspects from those presentations are:

Oil India was nationalised on 14/10/1981. Before that, there was a statutory guarantee for payment of pension. As on 31/3/2012, 1095 employees under this category are getting pension @ 40% of last 10 months average as pension. Those who were recruited after 14/10/1981 are covered under Defined Contributory System of pension.

Gas Authority of India (GAIL) employees contribute a fixed amount of Rs.29,172/- per year and it would increase by 5% each year. But the Management contributes only Rs.100/- per year. After 32 years of service, 50% of Last Pay Drawn (LPD) is given as pension. Minimum qualifying service required is 15 years and minimum pension is 20%.

In Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) Defined Benefit Scheme was introduced in November 1987 managed through Trust. As per DPE guidelines it was converted into Defined Contributory Scheme from 1/1/2007. Under Defined Benefit Scheme there were 13843 beneficiaries and under Defined Contributory Scheme there were 5595 beneficiaries as on 31/3/2012.

[Nobody in the above CPSEs get pension from government. We are the only PSU retirees receiving pension from government.]

Superannuation benefit of 30% of Pay + DA is apportioned as follows in the following CPSEs:-

Benefits	CPF	Gratuity	Pension	Medical
Neyveli Lignite Corporation	12%	4.16%	10%	3.84%
Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd	12%	4.81%	8.69%	4.5%
Coal India	12%	4.16%	9.84%	4%

Without knowing the details, leaders of some Unions/Associations and the management of DoT talk about referring to PRC.