

ALL INDIA BSNL PENSIONERS' WELFARE ASSOCIATION

[Regd. T 1833/09]

Website: www.bsnlpensioner.in

eMail: bsnlpensioner@gmail.com

AH 189/61, 3rd Street, Auroville Flats, Anna Nagar, Chennai 600040.

President: P S Ramankutty
Phone: 09447551555

General Secretary: G Natarajan
Phone: 09444929799

To
Ms. Sujata T. Ray,
Director (HR),
Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited,
New Delhi 110001

Respected Madam,

1) Our association, AIBSNLPWA, had promptly conveyed its appreciation of the decision taken by BSNL CO in April 2017 to restore quarterly medical allowance under BSNLMRS to the BSNL retirees. We are thankful to you for your genuine concern to the senior citizens who rendered long service in telecom sector in India.

2) Indian Railways and many Central Public Sector Undertakings in our country extend similar benefits to their retired staff considering it as a duty of the concerned organizations to provide proper medical care to the people who in the heyday of their life ceaselessly toiled for the employer and expect that in their old age, they would not be left in the lurch. Our association hopes that BSNL will also adopt such a policy. Hence, we express our serious concern and oppose the proposal to discontinue the system of paying quarterly medical allowance and also to reduce drastically the entitlement under with-voucher-scheme with effect from 1-4-2018.

3) We hope that you are aware that some of the Circles/SSAs have failed to pay the said two quarterly medical allowance to the pensioners despite repeated directions from your office. In some SSAs the medical allowance has been paid to the recent retirees but senior pensioners were asked to wait for want of HR Number etc. As a result, those who retired before 2010 have not yet received the allowance even for the first quarter of 2017-2018. In many other SSAs the allowance for second quarter is yet to be paid. A proper, strict monitoring system is required to ensure that your instructions are properly implemented by field units.

4) The system of payment of quarterly medical allowance has not yet been extended beyond September 2017. Retirees are neither paid the allowance nor permitted to claim reimbursement of medical expenses submitting vouchers for want of orders from Corporate Office. Recently when we visited Corporate office, the concerned officers assured that two more quarters till March 2018 would be extended on your return from Singapore.

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5) The need for medical attention for the pensioners who are above the age of 60 years in the background of increasing cost of medicines needs no new justifications. Hence we request you to kindly reconsider your proposal to reduce the limit of outdoor medical facility for the pensioners. The management can think of other alternatives to reduce the expenditure but not on health-care.

6) We would like to bring to your kind notice the difference of amount existing between pre-2007 and post 2007 pensioners also and request you kindly to extend the formula existing for with-voucher-facility in the BSNLMRS to the without-voucher- facility for the pre 2007 pensioners.

7) The scheme of "no allowance in CGHS covered areas" is also not suitable as the Medicines are supplied by CGHS dispensaries and here there is no possibility of supplying medicine. We have to spend and claim reimbursement which will obviate the relief extended by "without voucher scheme"

Hence, our Association earnestly requests you to kindly consider above points and continue the present arrangement, if not improved further, to provide a satisfactory medical care to the senior people who made the Indian telecom industry a profitable one when they were in service. They should not be exposed to the vagaries of rising prices of medicines and cut-throat medi-care systems.

Yours faithfully,

(G Natarajan),
General Secretary.

12-3-2018