

AIBSNLPWA
E-JOURNAL

JUNE, 2020

[with Two Annexure]

They take care of elderly persons,
while returning to their village, far far away

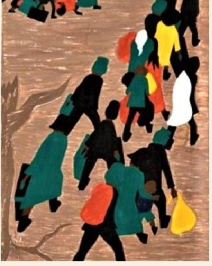


83

Rs. 83 Lacs

AIBSNLPWA COVID FUND as on 30-5-2020

Circle	Amount
ANDHRA	1093432.00
ASSAM	20600.00
BIHAR	89655.00
CHENNAI TD	337560.00
DELHI	98500.00
GUJARAT	179600.00
HARYANA	62030.00
JHARKHAND	50500.00
KARNATAKA	1876637.00
KERALA	1055531.00
MP	205410.00
MAHARASTRA	102500.00
ODISHA	115305.00
PUNJAB	241561.00
RAJASTHAN	46901.00
TAMILNADU	1980558.00
TELANGANA	739498.00
UP EAST	7681.00
GRAND TOTAL	8303459.00



'Les Misserables'

We are at Home, Safe because we get Pension. Outside, lakhs of our fellow citizens are moving from their earlier workplaces to their home villages, far away, many of them on foot covering more than 1000 KMs, taking their children on shoulders, carrying their old parents in stretchers of their own making. They move with unbearable pain cursing the lockdown declared so sudden, without providing a chance to escape by train or by bus or trucks. Large number of haunting photographs appears in print media every day. We give few of them in pages 16-18 of this eJournal.

Governments abandon these migrant workers; mainstream media ignore them; Local thugs thrash them; policemen beat them and almost every day road accidents kill them in groups. "Single death is a tragedy; thousand deaths is a statistics." These people are voiceless and powerless now. But they will become powerful during elections.

Sudden declaration of demonetization is understandable because of its probable misuse. But, sudden declaration of lockdown is incomprehensible. The diversity of our country, 'the Bharat that lives in villages', is beyond comprehension of many leaders and their advisory teams. So they take decisions without realizing its consequences. The Government should have known that its lockdown order would lead to immediate closure of 6.3 crore micro and small industrial units spread all over the country where these workers were employed. It should have been aware that in absence of resources, employers or farmers would not pay the wages of these workers and that a mere diktat to do so would not help.

The 20 lakh crore package declared and explained in five days does not give any relief to these people. Privatization of Defence production units or Indian Railways or ISRO in no way provides any relief to them. On the other hand, privatization of coal fields rubs salt into the wounds of the poor workers of Bihar, Jharkhand etc. Rather, they are thrown to greedy wolves. The Reformed labour laws, extending working hours from 8 hours to 12 only add their miseries. Labour migration is not a creation of Covid19. It is the disastrous result of constant neglect by the rulers that be during many a decades in the past. Reverse migration of crores of workers has serious consequences – political, social and cultural. Migration of labour has emerged as a ticklish issue the Nation has to tackle .

1 June, 2020

P S Ramankutty, Editor

[Noe: *Les misserables* is title of the classic French Novel by Victor Hugo, meaning the Misserable Ones.]

AS PROUD MEMEBRS OF AIBSNLPWA

Our Prime Minister declared 'Janata Curfew' on Sunday, the 22nd March 2020. On 24th night, he declared nationwide total lockdown for 21 days when 500 people were infected by Covid19 and ten people had died in our country. Lockdown was extended again and again. While we move to the lockdown 5.0, more than 1.8 lakh people are infected and 5000 killed.

On 29th March 2020 our General Secretary issued an extra ordinary appeal through whatsapp for donations. AIBSNLPWA had collected donations several times in past to help the victims of natural calamities. Members could go to the Banks or Post Offices and send the donations or they could hand over the amount to their Branch Secretary. This time the situation was different. As senior citizens the pensioners could not step out of their homes. Considering these practical difficulties, we called upon our members to remit the donations to the Distress Relief Fund of their respective chief ministers and just inform the DS or the CS.

Within 62 days, our members have donated an impressive amount of Rs. 83 lakhs.

Many a pensioners are not happy over some actions of the government. The Govt has used the crisis time to loot the poorly paid employees and pensioners by freezing the CDA. Govt utilized the worst time to reform labour laws increasing the burden of workers in the

country. It was done when lakhs of workers are thrown to streets, rendered jobless. Many of our members were angry with the negative attitude of BSNL Management which denies healthcare to the retirees. At the same time, Indian Economy was thrown wide open for naked exploitation by the industrialists. The rafter was pulled down when the house was on fire, that too in the darkness.

Despite all these resentment, the members of AIBSNLPWA responded positively and promptly to the appeal from General Secretary. Four members donated more than Rs One lakh each. Six others have donated more than Rs 50000 each. Since details were published earlier same is not repeated here. We are proud of them. We appreciate their noble mind. Tamilnadu Circle has donated Rs 19.80 Lakhs. Karnataka has sent Rs. 18.76 lakhs. Andhra and Kerala circle units have remitted more than Rs 10 lakhs each. 85% of these donations have gone to the respective chief ministers and 15% to the prime minister. It is 100% voluntary, pure and total. There was no campaign, no compulsion. The fact that entire donations gone on-line shows the loyalty of our members to our Organization; the largest organization of pensioners in Indian telecom industry.

We have done our duty as responsible senior matured citizens of the country, notwithstanding the individual views. We are proud of this great organization.

SPECIAL MEASURES FOR PENSIONERS: LIFE CERTIFICATE

DOT No. 47-15/TA-II/CPMS/2018/Part-1/1530-60 dated 19-5-2020

To

All Pr. CCAs/CCAs

It is to mention that India has been under lockdown since 25th March 2020. Also, Senior citizens like pensioners are, in particular, vulnerable to Covid19. For generation of Life Certificate (LC) pensioners have to go to either a physical office (physical LC) or Aadhar Centre /CSC (Digital LC) which will be against the spirit of Lockdown.

So, as a special measure for pensioners whose LC was expiring on 29th Feb. 2020 and 31st March 2020 relaxation had been given vide order dated 30th March 2020 wherein pension in such cases has to be paid till April 2020 and pensioners had to submit the Life Certificate by 31st May 2020.

A review of cases where LC is expiring in April 2020 (pension not payable in May) and May 2020 (Pension not payable in June) has been done. Further, in light of extension of lockdown till 31st May 2020, pensioners whose LC is expiring in April 2020 and May 2020 may find it difficult to submit LC or DLC by conventional methods.

Further the CPAO circular No. CPAO/Tech/Grievances/2010-11/531 dated 30-6-2011 (annexure A) provides that

a Gazetted Government Servant has the authority to sign a Life Certificate (point iii).

Hence considering the effect of Covid19 pandemic and the lockdown and in anticipation of difficulty that would be faced by the pensioners in submitting the certificates, as a special measure for pensioners whose LC is expiring on 30th April (including pensioners whose LC expiry date was relaxed as per previous order dated 30-3-2020) and 31st May 2020 it has been decided that

1. Pension be paid till month of June and the LC be submitted before 31st July failing which pension shall be stopped.

2. CCA offices shall use measures such as video calling amidst the pandemic to satisfy themselves of the liveness of the pensioner and certify their Life Certificates as per existing rules to the extent possible.

3. Additionally, pensioners must also be informed of the same by SMS and the initiative of CCA offices.

This issues with the approval of Member (Finance).

Instructions from Dept. of Pension for smooth payment of Pension and family Pension

DoP&PW OM No. 12/4/2020-P&PW(C)-6300 dated 15-5-2020

Subject : Consolidated instructions for Pension Disbursing Authorities to ensure smooth payment of pension/family pension to pensioners/family pensioners.

On an analysis of the grievances received in this Department, it has been observed that updated and consolidated instructions will help improve the processing of Pensioner's requests by banks and others. Hence, an attempt has been made herein, to consolidate relevant instructions issued by Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare from time to time with regard to disbursement of pension and family pension. These Banks are adopting different procedures, while releasing pension/ family pension or seeking declarations/certificates from pensioners / family pensioners at different periodicity. Therefore, the following consolidated guidelines are being issued with an objective to create awareness among CPPCs/ bank branches on updated rules and instructions in this regard:-

(i) Requirement of pensioners to be present in person before paying bank branch for credit of first pension :

The pensioner is no longer required to visit bank in person for credit of his first pension. The undertaking with regard to recovery of overpayment from pensioner is forwarded to concerned bank CPPC through CPAO along with the PPO. Bank will not insist for the presence of pensioner in order to activate their pension account. (DoPPW's OM No. 1/27/2011-P&PW dated 7th May 2014)

(ii) Requirement of family pensioner to submit form 14 : On death of a pensioner, the spouse is not required to submit form 14, if he/she was having a joint account with the pensioner and authorisation for payment of family pension exists in the Pension Payment Order (PPO) in his/her favour. In such cases, spouse will be required to provide only a copy of the death certificate to the pension paying branch in order to commence his/her family pension. Pension disbursing bank will identify the family pensioners based on the information furnished in PPO and its own Know Your Customer procedure without insisting him/her to physically present himself/herself in the paying bank. (DoPPW's OM No. 1/27/2011-P&PW dated 20th September 2013)

(iii) Insisting spouse to open separate bank account for getting family pension :-Banks will not insist for opening a new account when the spouse was having a joint account with the pensioner and authorisation for payment of family pension exists in the Pension Payment Order (PPO) in his/her favour. (RBI Circular-Disbursement of Government Pension by Agency Banks dated September 9, 2019)

(iv) Submission of declaration for taking up commercial employment after retirement: This declaration is required from pensioners who have retired from Group 'A' services/posts. This declaration is required only in the first year after retirement of a Group A officer. Therefore, this declaration may not be sought from the pensioner after expiry of one year from the date of retirement. If a pensioner

declares that he has taken up commercial employment within one year from the date of retirement without obtaining permission of Government, Pension disbursing bank will seek the orders of the Government through the CPAO before making further pension payments. However, if a pensioner declares that he has taken up commercial employment within one year after retirement with the permission of the Government, Pension disbursing bank will continue to pay his /her pension. (Rule 10 of CCS Pension Rule).

(v) Submission of re- employment certificate: A pensioner is required to furnish a re-employment declaration once in a year i.e. in the month of November every year. If a pensioner declares that he is re-employed under the Central or State Government, or a Corporation/ Company/ Body/ Bank under them, the element of dearness relief during the period of re-employment may not be credited by the bank during the period of such re-employment. However, if a pensioner declares about his re-employment and also States that in accordance with the relevant rules/instructions, entire amount of his/her pension has been ignored while fixing his/her pay in the re- employment post, he will continue to be eligible to draw dearness relief along with pension. If a pensioner fails to submit requisite declaration in the month of November, the element of dearness relief on his monthly pension may not be credited by the bank and he may be paid pension excluding the dearness relief. Employment/re-employment of spouse does not affect his/her family pension. Therefore, Dearness Relief will continue to be paid with family pension to the Spouse who is employed/re-employed in the aforesaid organizations. (Rule 55 of CCS Pension Rules, 1972).

(vi) Submission of non-earning certificate : A family pensioner, other than spouse, has to submit a declaration of non-earning his/her livelihood every year in the

month of November. As per rule 54(6) of CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972, family pension is allowed to a son, daughter, disabled sibling or parents of a deceased pensioner or a deceased Government servant until he/she starts earning his/her livelihood. This declaration is, however, not required from the spouse for continuing his/her family pension. (Rule 54(6) of CCS Pension Rules).

(vii) Submission of declaration of marriage: A family pensioner, other than spouse, has to submit a declaration of non-marriage/non re-marriage every six months. The family pension is discontinued if she/he gets married/re-married. If the Spouse is a recipient of family pension, no certificate of remarriage is required to be furnished by him/her. At the time of commencement of family pension, an undertaking will be obtained from him/her to the effect that in the event of his/her re-marriage, he/she will report the fact to the pension disbursing bank promptly. However childless widow of deceased Government servant and disabled child of a pensioner/Government servant will continue to get family pension even if they get married/re-married. (Rule 54(6) of CCS (PENSION) RULES, 1972)

(viii) Submission of life certificate: Life certificate has to be submitted by every pensioner/family pensioners in the month of November every year. Pension Disbursing bank will also accept Aadhar enabled Digital Life Certificate “Jeevan Pramaan”. Old aged pensioners who are 80 years and above can submit life certificate in the month of October also.(D/o Pension & Pensioners Welfare’s OM No. 1/20/2018 P&PW (E) Dated 18.07.2019)

(ix) Submission of disability certificate : If family pension has been sanctioned to a disabled child and the disability is temporary, the guardian of such disabled child shall produce disability certificate once in every 5 years to the effect that he/

she continues to suffer from such disorder /disability in order to continue family pension. No fresh certificate of disability would be required in the case of a child with permanent disability. A disabled child will also be required to self-certify every year that he/she has not started earning his/her livelihood (Rule 54(6) of CCS Pension Rule,1972)

(x) Restoration of commuted portion of pension: Restoration of commuted portion of pension after 15 years is to be made automatically by bank. Pensioner will not be asked to make application for restoration of commuted portion of pension. In cases where the date of commutation is not readily available in the PPO, the bank will obtain the information from the Accounts Officer who issued the PPO through Central Pension Accounting Office before restoring the commuted portion of pension. The amount of commuted pension will not be deducted

from family pension.

{ Rule 10 of CCS (Commutation of Pension) Rules, 1981 }

(xi) Paying additional amount of pension on attaining the age of 80 years and above: The additional quantum of pension/family pension will be paid on attaining the age 80 years and above. Additional pension is paid from the first day of the month in which a pensioner/family pensioner completes the age of 80 years and above. For example, if a pensioner / family pensioner completes the age of 80 years in the month of August, 2020, he will be paid additional pension/family pension from '1st day of the month of August, 2020. Bank will not insist for any request / application from pensioners/family pensioners in order to pay additional pension to them. The quantum of additional pension/family pension to the pensioners/family pensioners is as follows:-

Age of Pensioner

From 80 years to less than 85 years
From 85 years to less than 90 years
From 90 years to less than 95 years
From 95 years to less than 100 years
100 years or more

Additional quantum of pension

20% of basic pension
30% of basic pension
40% of basic pension
50% of basic pension
100% of basic pension

(D/o Pension & Pensioners Welfare's OM No. dated 38/37/08 P&PW(A) dated 2nd September & 3rd October 2008).

(xii) Obtaining of Life Certificate from the doorstep of the pensioners:- The Department has issued directions to all the Pension Disbursing Banks to send SMSs/ Emails to all their pensioners on 24th October, 1st* November, 15th November and 25th November every year reminding them to submit their Annual Life Certificates by 30th November. The Department directed all Pension Disbursing Banks to make an exception list as on 1st' December every year of those pensioners who fail to submit their Life Certificate and issue another SMS/ Email to them for submitting the Life Certificate. The bank in addition will also ask such pensioners through SMS/Email

as to whether they are interested in submission of Life Certificate through a chargeable door-step service, on a nominal charge not exceeding Rs. 60/-. (D/o Pension & Pensioners Welfare's Circular No. 12/4/2020-P&PW(C)-6300, dated 17.01.2020).

2. All banks are advised to comply with the above instructions and to give wide publicity by putting up these instructions on their websites and also on the notice boards of the branches of the bank etc.

3. This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

CHQ LETTER TO CMD ON MEDICAL POLICY OF BSNL

To
Shri P.K.Purwar,
CMD, BSNL,
Bharat Sanchar Bhawan,
Janpath, New Delhi-110001

Sir,

Sub: Procedure for outdoor medical claim
for BSNL employees (Serving/Retired)
Ref: Your order No.BSNL/Admn.1/15-12/18
dated 8/5/2020
Our letter dated 15/5/2020 on the subject

In continuation of our previous letter referred above we further submit the following for your consideration with regard to 'Retired Employees'.

2. Para 2 of your above order refers about 'Retired Employees' in which three options were given. Option a) is CGHS and it is already available in limited cities in the country and those who can afford to pay one time subscription have already migrated. For those who could not migrate because of lack of affordability, BSNL can have an understanding with CGHS for direct payment to CGHS at a later date. For those who have migrated some percentage of retired employees got the reimbursement but others are waiting for their turn expecting fund allotment from corporate office. This may kindly be looked into. We have nothing more to say about it.

With Voucher

3. Option b) says "15 days pay with vouchers" (Basic Pay + DA on the date of retirement). We feel that it is discriminatory because the eligibility for pre-2007 retirees would be less compared to post-2007 retirees.

4. At the time of introduction of BSNLMRS w.e.f. 24/2/2003 for retired employees,

vide your order dated 28/2/2003, the annual ceiling for outdoor treatment with voucher was last month's Basic + DA at the time of retirement. W.e.f. 27/2/2009 vide your order dated 22/10/2009 for pre-2007 retirees it was one month Basic + DA and for post-2007 retirees it was 25 days LPD + DA because they got pay revision from 1/1/2007.

5. It was further modified vide your order dated 8/9/2010 for with voucher outdoor treatment for post-2007 retirees the annual ceiling was 25 days LPD + DA of April for the financial year for which the claim pertains to. For pre-2007 retirees there were two options viz. 1) 25 days basic pay which will be freezed at the minimum of revised pay scale + DA applicable in April for the financial year for which the claim pertains to; 2) 25 days Basic Pay at the time of retirement + DA of April for the financial year for which the claim pertains to.

6. Even when expenditure control order was issued on 5/9/2011 withdrawing the 'without voucher' facility from 1/10/2011, the facility of 'with voucher' continued without any modifications.

7. Keeping in mind the difficulties of 'Retired Employees' the facility of 'without voucher' was restored only to them vide your order dated 11/4/2017.

8. The ceiling for 'with voucher' facility was reduced w.e.f. 1/4/2018 from 25 days to 23 days Basic + DA because of 50% DA merger amounting 78.2% vide your order dated 10/7/2018. All the above orders have some logic or rationale.

9. As per your order dated 3/6/2004 for five chronic diseases, circle heads were empowered to waive one month's Basic + DA.

10. But option b) restricting the ceiling to 15 days basic + DA at the time of retirement vide your order dated 8/5/2020 has no logic or rationale. Rather it is discriminatory. We assume that the experienced officials have left the organization on VRS-2019.

Without Voucher

11. Further we may draw your kind attention to the facility of 'without voucher'. The basic order dated 28/2/2003 stipulated the annual ceiling to 50% of last month's basic + DA at the time of retirement which will be paid in four equal instalments.

12. As per your order dated 22/10/2009 (which was specific to retired employees), w.e.f. 27/2/2009 the ceiling was revised differently to pre-2007 retirees and post-2007 retirees. The ceiling for pre-2007 retired employees it was 15 days Basic + DA and for post-2007 retired employees it was 12-1/2 days Basic + DA.

13. The annual ceiling for 'without voucher' was further reduced from 50% to 25% of Basic + DA which took effect from 1/4/2018 subject to a minimum of Rs.12000/- p.a. payable in four equal instalments vide your order dated 13/7/2018. In option C) of your order dated 8/5/2020, the minimum has become the ultimate.

14. You may be well aware about the difficulties of the retired employees' plight

and they have to spend more money for health-care. Nearly 90% of retired employees spend more than Rs.2000/- p.m. for outdoor treatment. Many retired employees opted for 'without voucher' because of difficulties in submitting the bills and following it up since most of them stay away from their last controlling offices.

15. 8/5/2020 order does not mention about date of effect. In the absence of specific date of effect, we presume that the order is prospective. That is the normal procedure but some officers at the field-level may interpret differently.

16. In the light of the above narration, we request you, sir, to withdraw the order dated 8/5/2020 because of the infirmities. We also request you, sir, to ensure required funds for payment of medical outstanding.

A line in reply is solicited.

Thanking you
Yours faithfully


P. Gangadhara Rao,
General Secretary.

Copy to:
Shri Rajiv Kumar Sharma, DGM (Admn.)

STRANGE WAYS OF BSNL

Several times in the past, BSNL has taken options from pensioners. Options remain on files without benefit reaching the optees. Without allotting funds what is the need of taking options again and again? Some Circles say that if option is not exercised afresh earlier option will remain valid. Good. Some other circles say that if fresh option is not exercised it is presumed that concerned pensioners want 'with voucher scheme'. There is no uniformity. It is the duty of Corporate Office to give clear instructions. They donot respond to repeated requests. In the lockdown days, when seniors are not allowed to go out, how can BSNL pensioners go and take xerox copies of MRS Cards, download the Form and send it? It is nothing but harassing the seniors. Taking option again without granting funds is nothing but a cruel joke.

EMAILS SENT BY LARGE NUMBER OF VRS
PENSIONERS TO THE CMD, BSNL .

To
CMD BSNL
cmdbsnl@bsnl.co.in

Sir
Society dues were recovered from my leave encashment/ex-gratia but the same is not remitted to the society and unnecessarily I am penalised. The recovered amount has to be remitted within 14 days as per Multi State co-operative society act.

Corporate office has not provided the required funds to the circles.

Please provide the required funds immediately and don't force me to file a case against CMD because non- remittance amounts to "breach of contract"

Yours faithfully
Name and place.

To
CMD BSNL
cmdbsnl@bsnl.co.in
Sir,

I retired on on superannuation. GPF contribution recovered from my salary, it seems not remitted to DoT. Hence my GPF was not settled in full.

It is my savings and BSNL has the obligation to pay me in full at the time of retirement. Utilising my savings for some other purpose is illegal.

Please pay my GPF dues to me without further delay and avoid facing a litigation.

Yours faithfully
Name
HRMS or PPO No

Note: It has worked. On 28-5-2020 most of the Circles received funds for clearing dues to the Co-operative Societies.

SUPREME COURT STEPS IN



A three-judge Bench of the Supreme Court on May 26 said there have been “inadequacies and certain lapses” on the part of the Central and State governments in dealing with the migrant workers crisis during the lockdown. The court ordered the Centre and the States to immediately provide transport, food and shelter free of cost to the stranded migrant workers.

The suo motu cognisance of media reports and representations from senior lawyers to step in to protect the fundamental rights of the migrant workers was taken by judges in their chambers. The court admitted that the “crisis is even continuing today with large sections of migrant labourers still stranded on roads, highways, railway stations and State borders”. Effective concentrated efforts were required to redeem the situation, it noted. The Bench led by J. Ashok Bhushan said in a written order, “Adequate transport arrangement, food and shelters are immediately to be provided by the Centre and the State governments free of cost. Although the Government of India and the State govts have taken measures yet there have been inadequacies and certain lapses”. [news]

On 28-5-2020, the Supreme Court directed the Centre and State Govts. to transport all migrant workers, willing to go back to their homes, FREE OF CHARGE by train or bus. Central Govt, through the Solicitor General, submitted that already 91 lakhs workers have been transported.

Immediately some people (including former Judges) commented in the social media that : “Supreme Court woke up too late.”

CORONA TOO HAS A BRIGHTER SIDE

In 2018 alone, 151417 people died in road accidents in India. 12616 deaths every month.

UP	22256
Maharashtra	13261
Tamilnadu	12216
Karnataka	10990
MP	10706

During April-May 2020, under lockdown the number of deaths in road accidents has come down to less than 500 !

And, COVID19 has taken away 4600 lives. Around 5000 in 2 months.

Plain speaking by J. A P Shah, former Chief Justice of Madras, Delhi High Courts



Every day, we hear of migrant labourers walking hundreds of miles, many dying in the process. The saddest is the apathy shown by the institutions meant to look out for their interests. I refer here to the Supreme Court, which has failed to satisfactorily acknowledge that the fundamental rights of migrant labourers have been violated, and ignored these workers when they most needed protection.

In this lockdown, enough and more evidence points to fundamental rights of citizens having been grossly violated, and especially those of vulnerable populations like migrant labourers. But instead of taking on petitions questioning the situation, the Supreme Court has remained ensconced in its ivory tower, refusing to admit these petitions or adjourning them. By effectively not granting any relief, the Court is denying citizens of the most fundamental right of access to justice, ensured under the Constitution. In doing so, it has let down millions of migrant workers, and failed to adequately perform as a constitutional court.

Today, we find ourselves with a Supreme Court that has time for a billion-dollar cricket administration, or the grievances of a high-profile

journalist, while studiously ignoring the real plight of millions of migrants, who do not have either the money or the profile to compete for precious judicial time with other litigants.

At this stage, I must acknowledge the stellar role being played by some High Courts, even though Governments have tried to discourage them on grounds that since the Supreme Court is not interfering, High Courts need not do so either. At least four High Courts (Karnataka, Madras, Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat) have started asking questions about migrant rights. This is almost a replay of what happened during Emergency, where High Courts boldly stood up and recognized violations, but were overruled eventually by the Supreme Court. The Madras High Court, for example, has quashed criminal defamation cases against media houses, stating that democracy cannot be throttled this way. Contrast this with the Supreme Court's reaction to the bizarre claim of the Solicitor-General who argued that the exodus of workers was due to fake news, the Court seemed to have accepted this, and media houses were advised to report more responsibly.

(Excerpts from an article written by Justice A.P.Shah in Hindu dated 25/5/2020)



Yesterday, 26-5-2020, our CHQ has received quota for 39 life members from Gurgaon, Haryana. With that, our life membership has crossed 50,000 and reached 50037. Today we have received quota for another 40 life members from Bhubaneshwar also. As such total life membership of AIBSNLPWA stands at 50077 now. Congratulations to all....

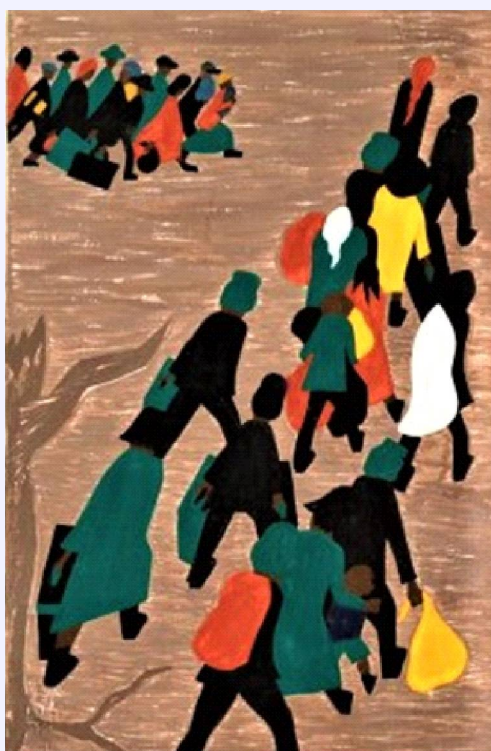
**..... T S Vittoban, CHQ Treasurer,
27-5-2020**

On 31-5-2020 the total number of Life Members, based on CHQ quota received is 50379. It is an occasion to celebrate. But due to lockdown situation we cannot celebrate. We observed a great enthusiasm amongst the VRS pensioners to join our Association recognizing its service in the last decade. But for the lockdown we would have crossed life membership of 50000 in March 2020 itself. Nation can not be locked down for ever. These difficult days will also go. We shall resume our mission with greater speed and spirit. During these days, we have lot of leisure time. Branch Secretaries, with the help of some active comrades, can utilize the time gainfully and can prepare a data base of all members and new VRS retirees, updating telephone numbers, email etc. Many have android phones. They can float Whatsapp groups adding the number of pensioners having the facility. ONE LAKH MEMBERSHIP IS NOT JUST A DREAM.

P S Ramankutty,
President.

P Gangadhara Rao,
General Secretary.

SUDDEN LOCKDOWN AND HUMAN EXODUS IN INDIA



We dedicate this issue of E-Journal to crores of migrant workers in our country, who are the real working class. Lockdown situation and the massive exodus from cities to the villages has exposed the colossal nature of a problem which many of us, especially the govt., were oblivious of. It is a stupendous task to tackle the issue; not only transporting them to their villages now but also rehabilitating them after the lockdown is withdrawn.

IMPACT OF SUDDEN LOCKDOWN



IMPACT OF SUDDEN LOCKDOWN



IMPACT OF SUDDEN LOCKDOWN



Bihar girl stuns world
by cycling 1200 km to
carry injured father
home, gets trial offer



Indian Scenario: states with more than 1000 cases
as on 31-5-2020

	<u>Total</u> <u>cases</u>	<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Death</u> <u>Rate</u>
India	182143	5164	2.84
Assm	1185	4	0.34
Kerala	1208	9	0.75
Odisha	1819	7	0.38
Haryana	1923	20	1.04
Punjab	2233	44	1.97
J& K	2341	28	1.20
Telangana	2499	77	3.08
Karnataka	2922	48	1.64
Andhra	3569	60	1.68
Bihar	3636	20	0.55
W. Bengal	5130	309	6.02
UP	7445	201	2.70
MP	7891	343	4.35
Rajasthan	8617	193	2.24
Gujarath	16343	1007	6.16
Delhi	18549	416	2.24
Tamil Nadu	21184	160	0.76
Maharashtra	65168	2197	3.37

The above data is based on the inputs from
Minsitry of Health and Family Welfare, GOI.

COVID19 CASES
World Scenario: 31-5-2020
 Source: Worldometer

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Death Rate</u>
World	6156428	370918	6.02
USA	1816820	105557	5.80
Brazil	499966	28849	5.77
Russia	396575	4555	1.14
Spain	286308	27125	9.47
UK	272826	38376	14.06
Italy	232664	33340	14.32
France	188625	28771	15.25
Germany	183294	8600	4.69
India	182143	5164	2.84
Turkey	163103	4515	2.76

Above data gives a clear picture. 'Developing' India has managed corona situation better than so-called 'developed super powers'. The infection rate is less. Death rate (of patients) is also very less. The Lockdown would have given a better result had the 'Executive' acted upon effectively understanding grave situation and the people at large behaved in a more responsible manner. A good section of our population lacks civic sense.

TWO ANNEXURE

Dear Comrades,

This is the fourth issue of our EJournal. Since we could not print and dispatch the printed magazines due to lockdown situation we thought of releasing some pages as Ejournal for the benefit of our readers. We have done it with limited knowledge, without taking any professional help. We are happy that there is appreciation.

We are attaching two Annexure to this issue of EJournal.

One is a scholarly article penned by Com. D Gopalakrishnan, our Vice President on the impact of privatization of Central Public Sector Enterprises announced by the finance minister. 'Selling Family Silver' is a phrase used for getting rid of something valuable in order to get a quick advantage when it would be better to keep it for an advantage in the future. Our minister Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad repeatedly asserted that only the govt. company BSNL was present in telecommunication sphere during natural calamities. That being the fact, we cannot appreciate the decision to sell very strategic areas to the greedy private hands. Even now we see no private airlines giving free service to transport the NRIs to India. Governments may come and go. Leaders may come and go. But the economy is controlled by handful of people. The article deserves a deep study.

Annexure I: Waiting list of Life members.

As on 31-5-2020, we have 5901 names of life members to be published. If we devote 4 pages in each issue, as being done, it may take more than an year to publish these names on hand. Again more will be coming in future days. Hence we have arranged all names Circle-wise, then SSA wise and given as Annexure. We upload the same in our Website also. In future we can do it frequently. Thus we can save 4 pages and a good sum every two months. We hope all comrades will agree with this proposal.

With regards,

P S Ramankutty, Editor