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PENSIONERS' PATRIKA

पेंशनर्स पत्रिका

VOL. IV No. 3 - 6 May - December , 2020



We mourn the death of hundreds of unknown migrant workers on their way back home during the nationwide lockdown.



We mourn death of some of our members due to Covid19.

(We do not mention their names here to avoid embarrassment to their families.)



COVID FUND

We appreciate noble gesture shown by following members who donated significant amount and made our efforts a great victory.

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Editorial 1

AFTER THE BREAK

Dear Readers,

We had prepared the matter, almost complete, for releasing the 50th issue of our Journal in first week of May 2020. But Covid19 prevented our plans. We are proud that we brought out all the 49 issues on time, without fail. But, we were forced to abandon the idea because the printing press in Chennai remained closed for some time due to lockdown. After the Press reopened it as impossible to our comrades, all senior citizens, to collect the printed books, bundle them and post them in RMS. Even if posted in RMS office at Chennai there was no guarantee that the individual copies would be delivered to addressees. Our Patrika was also locked down by COVID. We had no alternative but to skip three issues of May-June, July-August and September-October and release this Issue as a combined one. Some comrades suggested E-journal. Though not experienced, we brought out ten issues and many readers appreciated. But, E-journals reached about 2000-2500 people only.

This is the 50th issue of printed journal. The language is a problem for any house journal in India. Many comrades can not understand English. It is impossible to bring it out in 15 or more vernacular languages too. Keeping in mind the ground reality, we use a very simple English in the publication. Journal is a weapon for the organization that represents all sections of pensioners.

Our AIBSNLPWA has achieved 55000 life membership during this period. In August, we completed 11 years of our activities. Some Circles and branches observed the 11th Formation Day using new technology. We have to use extra ordinary tools to face extra ordinary situation.

Using the Covid situation the Government of India initiated action for privatizing major PSEs that will ultimately result in denial of pension, the social security system, to lakhs workers of those PSEs. About 80000 workers were sent out of BSNL under VRS offering some attractive financial benefits. But, once the workers gone out neither the management nor the government was worried about assurances. Even after drastic reduction in expenses on salary payments BSNL is still in red. The 'doctors' could not diagnose the disease. Inefficient doctors may kill the patient.

P S Ramankutty, Editor

MEDICAL CARE IS NOT A GRACE

National Policy of the Govt. for Older Persons, 1999 states;

“Senior citizens who are aged above 60 years and especially those with medical conditions, such as chronic respiratory disease, heart, liver and kidney disease, neurologic conditions, diabetes, hypertension and cancer, are particularly susceptible to infections during these times..... The National Policy seeks to assure older persons that their concerns are national concerns and they will not live unprotected, ignored or marginalized. The goal of the National Policy is the well-being of older persons. It aims to strengthen their legitimate place in society and help older persons to live the last phase of their life with purpose, dignity and peace.... Health care needs of older persons will be given high priority...”

Government policies are applicable to all, BSNL Management not being an exception.

Advisories from Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, state “ *Elderly people are at a higher risk of COVID-19 infection due to their decreased immunity and body reserves, as well as multiple associated co-morbidities like diabetes, hypertension, chronic kidney disease and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. Also, course of disease tends to be more severe in case of elderlies resulting in higher mortality”*

Health Ministry asked CGHS empaneled hospitals to provide coronavirus-related treatment to its beneficiaries. CGHS made such special arrangements. But BSNL Management has not only failed to take any such step when the whole nation, especially the Retirees, faced a grave situation but it also failed to honour the solemn assurances given to the senior citizens who

worked for decades in DoT/DTS before migrating to BSNL. The BSNLMRS introduced in February 2003 is common for both serving and retired staff and it does not discriminate any particular section. BSNL Management has been ignoring the medical care of the Retirees during the last few years. Number of BSNL retirees expired due to coronavirus un-cared for by BSNL.

Some BSNL Retirees suffering from kidney problems have departed this world as they could not afford to undergo dialysis because the bills they submitted have not been settled. The Company can never repair the damage nor can it reduce the woes of the bereaved family members. Many other Retirees are in utter distress as they cannot take treatment for cancer or cardiac problems because of nonpayment of their bills submitted.

Medical claims submitted by Retirees are not cleared due to financial crisis the company faces. The quarterly medical allowance is not paid to those BSNL retirees who opted for “without voucher scheme’ under BSNL MRS with the same justification. Same time, medical claims submitted by serving staff are being cleared without any hurdle. So, financial crisis is not the real reason. The Sr. GM concerned assured our Assist General Secretary that some funds would be allotted soon for clearing the bills from Retirees. Even after three months it is not done.

2.5 lakhs and odd BSNL retirees urge upon the BSNL management to allot sufficient funds to clear all pending medical claims from BSNL retirees and to pay the quarterly medical allowance remain unpaid till date and honour government policies..



GS WRITES

Dear Friends,

After a gap of eight months this Patrika is reaching you. Covid19 has created such a situation world over.

ANOMALY CASE

The case is known to all. Those BSNL employees who retired between October 2000 and June 2001 (with less than ten months service in BSNL) are getting less pension than their seniors and their juniors as well. This anomaly was discussed for long 12 years by service unions but not removed. Finally, our Association filed a case before Principal Bench CAT Delhi and we got a favourable judgement on 16/12/2016. But it was not implemented. So we filed contempt of court petition. To escape from contempt charges, DoT filed writ appeal in Delhi High Court against CAT judgement. Contempt proceedings were dropped but we were given the "liberty to revive the Contempt petition in the event of survival of CAT order in Delhi High Court". Delhi High Court dismissed the appeal of DoT on 24/1/2020 directing the respondents to implement CAT order within 8 weeks. That time-line also ended on 24/3/2020.

Meanwhile we wrote to DoT to implement the judgement and our representatives in Delhi viz. Com. Anupam Kaul and Com. R.L. Kapoor were constantly following up the matter. Estt. Section of DoT sent the file to Pension Department and it is understood that DoP&PW has given green signal to implement the decision with a rider to seek approval of Expenditure Department. So, the file was sent to DoT Accounts/Finance wing. The file was lying there for several weeks. The file has to go to Expenditure Department and then to the Legal Department also. The

officers with negative mind have many ways to delay a decision by moving the files to different sections in the Directorate. There are many rooms in the 14 storied Sanchar Bhavan. We had to tolerate some delay because of lockdown. But there is a limit for that too. In view of the inordinate delay we have revived the contempt petition before Hon Pr. Bench, CAT, Delhi on 13-8-2020 by filing the petition virtually. On behalf of our Association Shri R L Kapoor signed the petition. Now, seeing that they have to face the contempt of Court charges again DoT has forwarded the File with CAT judgement to Department of Expenditure under Ministry of Finance. It is also understood that DOE has sent the file back to DOT asking to seek legal opinion from Department of Law and Justice. These are nothing but delaying tactics. We are eager to get the benefits to the affected pensioners.

The officers in Directorate are in no urgency. Affected pensioners are worried. Out of the 4200 affected people more than half have departed this world. Remaining are all 79/80 years old. They want the benefit of Court order before they close their eyes for ever.

The revived Contempt Petition No. 100/2173/2014 came up before the Principal bench of CAT on 17-9-2020. Court directed the Respondents to file their replies before the next dated of hearing on 6-10-2020. And, on 6-10--2020, the Court postponed the case to 18-11-2020.

THE ANNIVERSARY

1st October 2020 was the 20th anniversary of formation of BSNL. AUAB, the united forum of All Unions/Associations of serving staff, observed it as BLACK DAY. Some of our comrades, as usual, sent Happy Formation Day messages. One treated it as Black Day or Happy Day depending upon his/her perception. Let us ponder over our own experiences during the last two decades.

1. All of us got an initial financial benefit of Rs 1000/2500 per month as advance. No doubt, it was attractive for many. Then we got some financial benefit from conversion of CDA pay scales to IDA scales and the above advance was adjusted in it.
2. From 2006 central Government Pensioners, covered by CCS Pension Rule 1972, got pension revision. It was denied to us. There was none to speak for us then. There was no organization for us to point out that we were also covered by same rule.
3. In 2009 and 2010, the serving staff of BSNL got pay revision; but our pension was not revised. Pension revision did not follow pay revision as Minister says now. Govt did not issue any order revising our pension revision, following pay revision in BSNL.
4. On 20th August 2009 we formed AIBSNLPWA. That marked significant change in the scenario. All started thinking of our pension revision.
5. In 2011 we got pension revision after prolonged struggle by AIBSNLPWA. The Govt did not link it with Pay Revision then. It was a separate decision by Cabinet, not automatic follow up of Pay Revision.
6. From 2016 the central government pensioners got another pension revision. Minister is now trying to link our pension revision with pay revision in BSNL depending upon financial feasibility of the Company.
7. Central government employees retired on or after 1-1-2006 got pension at the rate of 50% of LPD. It was extended to us when we demanded. Later on, implementing the report of 7th CPC the Government gave notional revision of pension to all pre2006 pensioners based on LPD. It is not yet extended to us. BSNL staff retired from October 2000 to December 2005 are getting pension based on last ten months' average basic pay.

6. Central govt pensioners residing outside CGHS area get Rs 1000 p.m. as medical allowance. We are offered but not yet paid.
7. Pensioners' medical claims are pending for last two years. Medical allowance is not paid to us for more than two years.
8. Some pensioners died because they could not continue dialysis as their pending bills are not settled.
9. BSNL has funds, it has settled medical claims from serving staff. Pensioners are senior citizens who need more medical care. They are the people who built up Indian Telecom infrastructure shedding sweat and blood. But they are ignored with cruel vengeance.
10. It is reported that some people in service and their organizations oppose settlement of medical claims of pensioners. They must understand that they will have to swallow bitter pill when they retire (if at all they continue in BSNL service till retirement age.)
11. 80000 staff members have been thrown out under VRS. An Ex gratia was offered to them before June 2020. But it is not yet paid in full.
12. Many of them are asked to pay huge amount as rent for quarters, they otherwise were entitled to retain till the age of 60 on normal rent.
13. The anomaly in pension faced by more than 4200 pensioners remains unsettled despite Court order.
14. Govt. declared revival package for BSNL. Nothing happened. Even 4G is not yet allotted to BSNL. All assurances have disappeared in thin air.
15. A strategic, profit earning Public Service is made loss incurring, ailing, sick Industry due to wrong policies of the successive Governments to serve the private sector.

PENSIONERS DAY 2020

In the alarming situation that prevails pan India, we can not expose our members to any risk. Hence we call upon all branches to hold virtual meetings, ~~wherever possible, 2020~~ observe the Pensioners Day on 17-12-2020.



PENSION REVISION : LEGAL REMEDY SOUGHT

(D.Gopalakrishnan, Vice President, CHQ)

Background

Dr. Manmohan Singh, then Prime Minister announced 'constitution of 7th CPC' in September 2013. The CWC meeting held in November 2013 at Ernakulam constituted a five member committee consisting of Coms. P.S.Ramankutty, D.Gopalakrishnan, G.Natarajan, Chiddu Singh and K.Muthiyalu to prepare a memorandum to 7th CPC. Next CWC meeting held in Chennai in April 2014 approved the memorandum demanding Pension Revision delinking from Pay Revision. Subsequent CWC meetings held at Bilaspur in November 2014, at Nagpur in March 2015, in Bangalore in November 2015, again in Bangalore in November 2016, at Patna in November 2017 as well as the Bangalore AIC in November 2015, special AIC in Bangalore in November 2016, the Puri AIC in September 2018 all endorsed the demand unanimously. Kanyakumari CWC also endorsed it and decided for legal fight as a last resort. There was no dissent on the demand for pension revision with CPC fitment benefits, which would be a permanent solution delinking from pay revision in BSNL. All these decisions were taken unanimously in the constitutional forums and especially in AIC, which is the supreme body of the organization.

Case filed

We had to knock the door of judiciary since all other doors are closed. The bureaucracy and their political masters have a firm view that pension revision follows pay revision. Pay revision is possible only after BSNL earns profit consecutively for three years which is not in sight at all.

Central Secretariat which met in Bengaluru in January 2020 decided to file the case (with a dissent by one Dy. GS who differed from the demand itself and a dissent by one AGS who wanted to wait till Gorakhpur CWC) before the Hon. CAT, Bengaluru because of certain inputs. Though we approached the lawyer immediately after the meeting he took more than two months to prepare a draft petition. Lockdown was promulgated throughout the country from 25th March 2020 due to Covid-19. We came to know that some other Pensioners organizations were trying to file the case before CAT, Kolkatta, Principal Bench, CAT, Newdelhi. In such an eventuality if we file a case before Hon. CAT, Bengaluru there is a chance of getting it transferred to Principal Bench, CAT, New Delhi. Further, some senior comrades from our organization suggested that it is better to file the case before Hon. Principal Bench, CAT, Newdelhi. Taking all these factors into consideration the case was filed before the Hon. Principal Bench, CAT, Newdelhi on **10th September 2020 (OA No.100/1329/2020)** virtually by our advocate Shri Gautam Narayan. It came up for admission on **18th September 2020** and the same was admitted. Shri Kaushik, counsel for respondents took notice on behalf of Respondents and the case is adjourned to **18/11/2020** and the respondents were directed to file the counter before that.

Thankful to AGS Shri Anupam Kaul

One who has the experience of filing a case before the court knows the difficulties involved. First, we have to find out a good lawyer; then seek his/her opinion about the merit of the case; explain the

demand and requirement; supply the necessary documents; modify the petition several times to bring it to a correct position. It is much more difficult without meeting the lawyer in person because of the lock-down. We are thankful to Com Anupam Kaul, AGS for identifying a good lawyer who is known to him for several years because that lawyer has dealt with a case of promotion to Executives of BSNL upto Supreme Court. Earlier we consulted the advocate in Chennai and Delhi who gave the legal opinion that it is a fit-case.

Applicants & Respondents

All India BSNL Pensioners' Welfare Association, a registered body, represented by the General Secretary is the 1st applicant in a representative capacity. The 2nd applicant is Com P. S. Ramankutty, CHQ president (retired before 2007 from non-executive cadre). 3rd applicant is Com Anupam Kaul, AGS (retired between 2007 & 2017 from executive cadre) and the 4th applicant is Com V.Latha (retired on 31/1/2020 under VRS-2019 from non-executive cadre).

The respondents are Union of India represented by 1) Secretary, DoT, 2) Secretary, DoP&PW and 3) Secretary, DoE, MoF.

Facts & Grounds

1) DoP&PW OM dated 5/7/1989 which deals with modified terms of pension payable consequent to the conversion of a Government Department or a segment thereof or a Govt. office into a CPSU. This order was made applicable to VSNL, MTNL etc.

2) Cabinet Memo dated 25/9/2000 (for formation of BSNL) of DoT which was approved by the cabinet. Para 4.4 of that memo deals with Pension & Retirement benefits which states (i) All employees will be entitled to Government's scheme of pension/family pension even after their absorption; (vi) the pension framework was made part of the CCS Pension Rules by amending Rule 37 using powers under Article 309 of the Constitution of India.

3) Gazette notification issued by DoP&PW on 30/9/2000 amending CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972 under proviso to Article 309 & Article 148(5) of Constitution of India, incorporating Rule 37-A.

4) Presidential order issued to the individual officials who opted for absorption in BSNL clearly states that pension shall be paid in accordance with Rule 37-A of CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972.

5) Explanation under sub-rule 8, 22 to 24 of Rule 37-A.

6) DoP&PW clarification dated 20/12/2002 to sub-rule 9 of Rule 37-A which clearly states that 'to determine the amount of pension' calculation of average emoluments, IDA pay drawn in PSU should be taken into account.

7) Based on cabinet decision, DoT issued OM dated 20/7/2016 rescinding its earlier order dated 15/6/2006 (which provided for 60:40 ratio) and accepting 100% liability of paying pension/family pension by the Government to BSNL absorbed pensioners.

8) DoP&PW clarificatory letter dated 27/4/2009 to DoT stating that since the pension/family pension to the absorbed employees of BSNL is paid by the Government, recommendations of 6th CPC communicated by its OM dated 2/9/2008 is applicable to them.

9) DoT OM dated 4th/15th May 2009 & 12/8/2009 which were issued based on the clarification issued by DoP&PW implementing certain recommendations of 6th CPC to BSNL IDA pensioners.

10) The recommendations of 6th CPC were made applicable to BSNL IDA pensioners with effect from 1/1/2006. Qualifying service for full pension, quantum of pension, ceiling on gratuity, new commutation table, enhanced family pension for 10 years in case of death in harness, age-related additional pension, widowed/unmarried or

divorced daughters of absorbee pensioners are entitled for family pension without any age limit, dual family pension for ex-servicemen etc. are identical to Central Government pensioners & BSNL IDA pensioners.

11) Similarly BSNL IDA pensioners on par with C.G. pensioners are entitled to avail CGHS facilities because the pension for both are paid from Central Civil Estimate. BSNL employees (absorbed from DoT) are not eligible to this facility because their pay is paid by BSNL.

12) After acceptance of 2nd PRC recommendations by the Government, BSNL with the approval of DoT revised the pay of BSNL executives from 1/1/2007 by an order of 2009. BSNL non-executives also got the pay revision from 1/1/2007 based on agreement and order dated 7/5/2010 with the approval of DoT. But pension revision for pre-2007 retirees was not done along with it. It created an anomalous situation. To overcome this, DoT moved a cabinet note which was approved. Based on the cabinet approval DoT issued OM dated 15/3/2011 revising pension/family pension to pre-2007 retirees.

13) Para 4.1 of 15/3/2011 OM deals with the quantum of revised pension/family pension. Para 4.4 deals with minimum & maximum pension viz. Rs.3500/- & 45000/- respectively which is on par with C.G. pensioners.

14) DoP&PW OM dated 4/8/2016 deals with revision of pension with fitment factor as per 7th CPC recommendations. It also states that these orders shall apply to all pensioners/family pensioners who were drawing pension/family pension under CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972.

15) Pension, Gratuity & Commutation are three components of retirement benefits. BSNL IDA pensioners are getting Gratuity & Commutation on the same formula as applicable to Central Govt. pensioners. Then denying the third component of

pension on the same formula as applicable to Central Govt. pensioners is illogical & Irrational.

16) Gratuity is paid to BSNL IDA pensioners on the basis of CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972 and not according to Payment of Gratuity Act 1972. Because of this factor, BSNL IDA pensioners are getting less amount compared to other CPSU retirees who are covered under Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972. For example, the 2nd applicant got Rs.91,674/- less compared to other CPSU retiree similarly placed.

17) The respondents cannot deny pension revision as per 7th CPC recommendations on the pretext that they are getting IDA scale. Implementation of IDA payscale for CPSU employees is mandatory vide DPE OM dated 12/6/1990 which was issued as per Supreme Court judgement dated 3/5/1990.

18) Sub-rule 4 of Rule 37-A states that one ceases to be a Government servant on the date of absorption in CPSU which is against the Supreme Court judgement dated 15/12/1995. A similar proviso was there in para 4 of DoP&PW OM dated 5/3/1987 which was quashed by the Supreme court.

19) The Government employees who were absorbed in a CPSU and who opted for pro-rata pension or 100% commutation in lieu of pension are entitled for full pension after 15 years with attendant benefits including 7th CPC recommendations as per DoP&PW OM dated 23/6/2017. This OM was issued on the basis of Supreme Court judgement. This OM was implemented by DoT.

20) But BSNL IDA pensioners had no option for pro-rata or 100% commutation. They had only option of Government scheme of pension on combined service.

21) DoP&PW vide its letter dated 8/3/2019 sought from DoT a concrete proposal for pension revision but DoT did not send its proposals.

22) The first applicant made several representations for pension revision to the respondents 1 & 2 and they neither got any reply nor the demand was conceded.

23) Due to non-revision of pension, the 2nd applicant is receiving Rs.1677/- less per month in total pension as on 1/1/2017 compared to his counter-part in Central Government.

24) Due to non-revision of pension to BSNL IDA pensioners, their minimum pension remains at Rs.3500/- whereas the minimum pension for C.G. pensioners is increased to Rs.9000/- from 1/1/2016. Because of this factor, thousands of pensioners retired from the lowest rung and family pensioners are getting Rs.1317/- less per month in total pension as on 1/1/2017 compared to C.G. pensioners.

25) Three Supreme Court judgements including famous Nakara judgement were quoted.

26) Hon. Principal Bench, CAT, Newdelhi judgement dated 4/6/2007 in Iqbal singh Vedhi Vs Director General of Civil Aviation which was upheld by Hon. Delhi High Court vide its judgement dated 6/3/2017 was also quoted.

Relief sought

In light of the facts and circumstances set out hereinabove, it is most respectfully prayed that this Hon'ble Court may kindly be pleased to -

i. Declare that the members of the Applicant Association are entitled to parity with Central Government pensioners in the matter of revision of pension on the same yardstick as granted to Central Government pensioners;

ii. Direct the Respondents to revise the pension of the members of the Applicant Association in terms of the recommendations of the 7th Central Pay Commission;

iii. Direct Respondents to de-link the issue of revision of pension from pay revision for absorbee pensioners of BSNL;

iv. Pass such other order/s as may be deemed fit and proper in the facts of the present case.

Comrades,

We have done our best to justify our plea before Hon Tribunal. We have to wait for the counter from the respondents and then we have to file rejoinder. We have to be mentally prepared for a legal fight upto the last level. After the case is decided by the Tribunal, either party will appeal to the next level and then it will go on. No doubt it is a costly affair and time-consuming one. But we have no other option. Had late Nakara not gone to the court, pension revision might have been a mirage. Had one individual by name late K.Ganesan not fought the legal battle upto Review Petition in the Supreme Court, 100% commutation beneficiaries would not enjoy their full pension today (after 15 years of commutation). Once when we were discussing the issue with DDG (Estt.) Shri S.K.Jain, we quoted the Nakara judgement. Immediately he commented to Com Gangadhara Rao that "you also file a case and become another Nakara". I feel that it has come true. This case is not only for the existing pensioners but for future retirees of absorbees. This would be a permanent solution. We have also taken into account pre and post 2017 retirees.

Other Similar Cases

Retired Telecom Officers' Welfare Association (RTOWA), Delhi (led by Coms M.K. Bagchi & S.S. Nanda), RTOWA, Mumbai (led by Com Jawahar), MTNL Pensioners' Welfare Association, Mumbai (led by Com Sadanand Mahadev Sawant) have jointly filed a case (OA No.100/1271/2020) before the Hon. PB, CAT, Newdelhi on 8/9/2020.

Similarly All India Retired BSNL Executive Welfare Association (led by Com Prahlad Rai) and Sanchar Nigam Pensioners' Welfare Association (led by Com G.L. Jogi) filed a similar petition (OA No.100/1272/2020) before the Hon. PB, CAT, Newdelhi on the same date (8/9/2020).

It is good in both the above petitions, retirees from non-executive cadre are included as applicants.

Both the petitions came up for hearing on 17/9/2020 for admission and the same is admitted. The next date of hearing is 3/11/2020.

They have sought the following relief from the Tribunal:

a) Pass an order directing the Department of Telecommunication to revise the pension/family pension/Minimum pension with effect from 1/1/2017 for the BSNL combined service pensioners, who were absorbed from DoT/DTS/DTO with effect from 1/10/2000 and retired prior to 1/1/2017 by applying the fitment formula on IDA pension on 1/1/2017

b) Pass an order directing the Department of Telecommunication to revise the pension/family pension/Minimum pension with effect from 1/1/2017 for the BSNL combined service pensioners, who were absorbed from DoT/DTS/DTO with effect from 1/10/2000 analogous to the revision of pension/family pension/minimum pension for the Central Government pensioners based on the recommendations of the 7th Central Pay Commission

c) Pass an order directing the Department of Telecommunication to revise the pension for BSNL combined service pensioners parallel to the revision of pension of the Central Government servants without linking with pay revision in BSNL

d) Pass such other further order(s) as this Hon. Tribunal may deem fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of the present case and in the interest of justice

Some pensioners are asking that why can't there be a single petition for BSNL pensioners? Our reply is that it is better to have two brains through two different lawyers to argue the case from different angles. As soon as they filed the case we congratulated them. Similarly when we filed the case, they congratulated us. It is mutual and there is no competition but complementary to each other. Our members should not get confused and that is why we give this explanation.

OUR CONTRIBUTION

To Shri. Narendra Modiji,
Honourable Prime Minister of India,
South Block, New Delhi 110001.
Through Shri Pralhad Joshi, Minister for Parliamentary Affairs.

Respected Sir,

I am very happy and proud to inform you Sir that members of this Organization, who are senior citizens, have voluntarily donated Rs 1.04 Crore to combat the pandemic Covid19.

About Rs. 80 lakhs are donated to the respective Chief Ministers Distress Relief Funds and Rs. 24 lakhs donated to either PMNRF or PM Care Fund. Due to lock down, our members could not go out of residences and hence on our request they remitted the donations on-line.

Our members, as responsible senior citizens of the country, have risen to the occasion when the Nation is facing an unprecedented crisis. Our Association has done it in the past and we shall be doing it in future, if needed.

Yours faithfully,


P. Gangadhara Rao, **
General Secretary.

Rs. 104.87 LAKHS

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GUJARAT	254350.00	TAMILNADU	2797444.00
HARYANA	130730.00	TELANGANA	839758.00
JHARKHAND	61600.00	UP EAST	7681.00
KARNATAKA	2018553.00	UP WEST	23000.00
		GRAND TOTAL	10487703.00

WE PROTEST

Letter dated 13-8-2020

To
Shri Narendra Modiji,
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India,
South Block,
New Delhi 110001.

Respected Sir,

We strongly condemn the atrocious attack launched by Shri Anantkumar Hegde, MP, on the entire workers of BSNL. The MP has made a provocative statement, in a meeting held on 10th August, 2020, calling the BSNL employees "traitors". He has also stated that, BSNL has become a "Black Mark" for the entire country. Further, he has stated that more employees of BSNL would be fired out and that BSNL would be privatized.

The BSNL workforce with depleted strength is engaged in a strenuous work to maintain the telecommunication system with utmost sincerity and dedication. BSNL is not receiving proper financial support from Department of Telecom. During the recent natural disaster at Munnar in Kerala the few BSNL employees had to walk kilometers in the dangerous thick forest carrying a generator to restore the mobile services. It was appreciated by all. In the past also the BSNL workers have done great work at the time of natural calamities in different parts of our country like Orissa, Chennai, Tamilnadu, Andhra, Uttranchal, Kerala, Karnataka, Latur etc. etc. Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, the Hon'ble Minister for Communications who was posted with all such information of dedicated service of BSNL staff, time and again, appreciated it.

Sir, you yourself have recently appreciated the service rendered by BSNL and its staff.

We do not know who has authorized the said MP to declare government policies. As such, the unwanted, uncalled-for comments by a leader of the ruling party are most condemnable. Our Association, which represents more than 80000 retired BSNL staff, stoutly refutes the irresponsible allegations of Mr. Anantkumar Hegde MP and we stand in solidarity with the protesting BSNL workers all over India.

We further request you to kindly instruct the gentleman to desist from making such statements which brings discredit to the entire community of political leadership.

SOME OF THE CASES TAKEN UP BY CHQ OF AIBSNLPWA DURING LOCKDOWN PERIOD.

Email Date: 26/6/2020

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

Sir,

**Sub: Covid-19 treatment to retired
employees of BSNL**

You may be aware that many employees and retired employees are affected by covid-19 in many states and some succumbed to that. Almost all State Governments have identified the private hospitals and they have also fixed the cap on fees for testing and treatment for this pandemic. In this regard Department of health & family welfare issued an order on 9/6/2020 stating that CGHS empanelled hospitals which are identified as Covid-hospitals by the state governments shall provide treatment facilities to CGHS beneficiaries.

Similarly instructions need to be issued by Corporate office to all field-level GMs/PGMs to have an understanding with empanelled hospitals which are identified as covid hospitals by the respective State Governments for testing and treatment for Covid-19 patients who are beneficiaries of BSNLMRS. Immediate actions is required in this regard.

Email dated 26-6-2020

To Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, Minister for
communications and

To Dr. Harshvardhanji,
Hon. Minister for Health & Family Welfare,
Govgt. of India, New Delhi.

Sub: **CGHS: Change of procedure for
migration to CGHS by BSNL retirees –
Request intervention**

We are constrained to approach you, sir on the following issue concerning the health of BSNL retirees.

BSNL/MTNL retirees are entitled to migrate to CGHS since their pension is paid from Central Civil Estimate as per the existing orders. CGHS facility is at present available in 71 cities. As per the existing procedure, BSNL retirees have to surrender their BSNL Medical Reimbursement Scheme (BSNLMRS) card and then migrate to CGHS. **But the retirees have to make one-time payment to CGHS as subscription for life period which shall be reimbursed by BSNL at a later date.** Due to financial condition of BSNL, the reimbursement is not being made for many months.

Further, one-time payment ranges from Rs.30,000/- to Rs.1,20,000/-. Hardly 20 to 30% of the retirees in those 71 cities only could avail this facility by paying the amount. Most of the retirees (nearly 70%) could not migrate to CGHS because they are not in a position to pay that lump-sum amount. To mitigate this hardship, there can be an undertaking by BSNL to pay the dues to CGHS directly within a time-frame. **The retirees need not pay the subscription to CGHS but they can avail the facility. This would reduce the financial burden of BSNL on medical reimbursement.**

CHQ TAKES UP ISSUES

Email Date: 10/7/2020

To
Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad,
Hon. Minister for Communications & IT,
New Delhi-110001

Sub: **Partial Payment of Ex-gratia to VRS-19 optees – Breach of contract - intervention**

We would like to draw your kind attention to our previous letter dated 14/5/2020 on the above subject.

2. In accordance with cabinet decision dated **23/10/2019**, BSNL corporate office announced the scheme of 'VRS-2019' vide its order dated 04/11/2019. Para 6(e) of Annexure I of that order clearly states "**An employee retiring voluntarily under the scheme shall be paid the amount of Ex-gratia in two equal instalments of 50% each. The first instalment shall be paid in FY 2019-20 and the second instalment in first quarter of FY 2020-21**". *Based on this only, employees opted for VRS; hence it is a contract between the parties.*

3. Demand No. 13 for Department of Telecommunications was voted by Parliament. **For revival plan for FY 2019-20 Parliament approved the R/E for Rs.7301.62 crore. For payment of Ex-gratia alone for 2020-21 Parliament voted for Rs.9890 crore. As per the agreement 100% ex-gratia should have been paid by this time.**

4. But, Department of Economic Affairs (Budget Division), Ministry of finance issued an order dated **8/4/20** for 'cash management system' restricting the expenditure to 15% of B/E for Q1 (Apr-June) for several departments including DoT which comes under category 'C'. Again vide its order dated **23/6/20** the same 15% restriction was extended to Q2 (Jul-Sep) in view of covid-19 situation and lock-down.

5. It is economically prudent to give the money in the hands of VRS-2019 retirees who in turn either spend in the market which would generate demand or use towards 'saving' which would help the national economy.

6. As per the settled legal position
· **VRS is an invitation to treat application filed by the employees constituted "offer"**
· **Since the order accepting the voluntary retirement was a conditional one, the conditions ought to have been complied with**

As per section 2(e) of 'The Indian Contract Act 1872' – Every promise and every set of promises, forming the consideration for each other, is an agreement; section 2(h) states that 'An agreement enforceable by law is a contract'

7. As on date only 53.8% of Ex-gratia (in two instalments) is paid. Non-payment of 100% Ex-gratia before 30/6/2020 as per the agreement is a breach of contract. As a legal luminary and Hon. Minister for Law & Justice you are pretty well aware about the legality. The commitment has to be honoured as per the agreement. We hope and trust that your intervention would avoid any litigation by the employees.

To Member (Finance),
Telecom Commission, New Delhi

Email dated 26-6-2020

Subject: ex-gratia payment

You are well aware that VRS-2019 retirees are yet to get the remaining 68.7% ex-gratia. The Govt. made a commitment to make payment in the first quarter of FY 20-21. There are so many versions about this payment.

On behalf of All India BSNL Pensioners' Welfare Association we request you, sir, to clarify the position. Whether the MoF has allotted the required funds and when the retirees are likely to get the remaining ex-gratia. We shall feel highly obliged if you can send the reply by E-mail.

CHQ TAKES UP ISSUES

Email Dated 29-7-2020

To
Shri P.K.Sinha,
Member (F), DoT, New Delhi-110001

Sub: Discrepancies in EPPOs

After introduction of 'Sampann' PCCAs/CCAs are directly crediting the retirement benefits to the pensioner's bank account and issuing 'e-ppos'. We came across certain discrepancies in those e-ppos and we request you to take necessary corrective steps in this regard.

1. As per form CAM-52 (Para 7.3.2) Rubber stamp of the Office issuing the PPO should be affixed. But the copies of e-ppo received by the pensioners through post did not have the rubber stamp.
2. Part II, Section 2 deals with 'Details of pension'. In this section point 3 mentions "Rules under which sanctioned". Against this column for VRS-2019 retirees it is mentioned as "BSNL VRS 2019" and for superannuation retirees it is mentioned as "Rule 35". Here we would like to point out that there is no rule as "BSNL VRS 2019" and though Rule 35 is for superannuation it is not applicable to 'combined service optees'. Rule 37-A of CCS (Pension) Rules 1972 is only relevant for both the cases. Accordingly it needs modification.
3. Part II, Section 3 deals with details of family pension payable on the death of the pensioner. Under this, column 1 states "Rules under which family pension is admissible" which is left blank. Here Rule 54 of CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972 should have been mentioned.
4. In para 6.2 (b) (iii) of BSNL VRS scheme, it was mentioned that for deferred payment of gratuity, simple interest on par with GPF interest from the date of voluntary retirement till the date of release shall be paid. But part I (of e-ppo) column 15 mentions only the actual amount of eligible gratuity without mentioning the interest thereon. It should have been mentioned.

For your kind perusal we herewith attach two copies of e-ppo (one VRS-2019 and another superannuation case) issued by PCCA, Tamilnadu.

We request you to take necessary steps for giving suitable instructions to PCCAs/CCAs to issue necessary corrigendum and issue e-ppos in future without those lapses. It would avoid future confusions which may arise after some decades.

Arbitrary reduction of LPD by CCA, TN Violation of statutory rules –

Email Dated: 08 /08/2020

To
Shri Anshu Prakash,
Secretary (T), New Delhi-110001

- Ref: 1) DoT letter No.1-42/MPP-98(Pt.) dt. 31/12/98
2) Our letter dated 6/7/2018
3) PCCA, TN letter No.Pr.CCA/DOT/TN/PEN/ GENL dtd.8/12/2016 to DDG (Estt)
4) Reminders from PCCA, TN dated 17/7/ 2017, 4/5/2018 & 11/3/2019 to DDG (Estt)
5) Reply from Director (Estt) No.1-2(02)/2018- PAT dtd.3/6/2019 to Joint CCA (Pension) O/o PCCA, TN
6) Dept. of Posts letter No.100-1/2020- Pension dtd. 27/7/2020 to DAP, Delhi

We would like to draw your kind attention to the following issue and seek your intervention please.

In accordance with reference 1 order of DoT dated 31/12/1998, trained phone mechanic officials were placed in LM scale due to want of Phone Mechanic posts. Later they were promoted as and when vacancies arose (in the year 2001, 2002 etc).

PCCA, TN reduced the LPD of those officials who retired in 2016, 2017 etc. They dug-up the pay fixation which was done more than 15 years back. As per CCS (Pension) Rules 1972, a statutory one, AO, O/o PCCA is to verify the pay fixation only 24 months before the date of retirement and not before.

We took up this issue in the 'Pension Adalat' of Tamilnadu and PCCA, TN referred the matter to DDG (Estt) under reference 3 quoted above.

After 3 reminders, Director (Estt) replied vide reference 5 quoted above. Without application of mind, the reply stated ***"action taken by CCA, Tamilnadu does not require any re-examination"***.

Hundreds of officials retired on 31/1/2020 from these cadres and their LPD was also arbitrarily reduced.

Department of Posts, under the same Ministry of Communication has clearly clarified to DAP, Delhi, after consulting DoP&PW under reference 6 quoted above. The last para of that letter states ***"In view of the clarification received from the DoP&PW, it is requested that officers in DAP, Delhi may please be directed to adhere to the rules in this regard and should in any case not go back to a period earlier than a maximum of 24 months preceding the date of retirement for raising observations relating to pay fixation etc as per the guidelines" (copy enclosed).***

May we request you, sir, to give suitable revised instructions to PCCA, TN as given by DoP to DAP, Delhi.

Violation of statutory rule, CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972 by DoT – intervention

eE mail Date: 13 /08/2020

To
The Secretary (Pension),
Lok Nayak Bhawan, Khan Market, New Delhi

In accordance with CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972, a statutory one, Pension authorizing authority (AO), has to verify the service book with regard to pay fixation, **only for 24 months prior to retirement and not before that.** This was clarified by your office to Department of Posts

CHQ TAKES UP ISSUES

very recently quoting chapter 7 of Civil Accounts Manual.

2. But DoT, under the same ministry is verifying the pay fixation done in 2000 (240 months before date of retirement) and arbitrarily reducing the LPD. It reflects in reduction of all retirement benefits including pension which is perpetual.

3. You may be aware that several thousands of BSNL employees took voluntary retirement on **31/1/2020**. The LPD of several hundreds of such retirees **in the cadre of Telecom Technician was arbitrarily reduced by PCCA/CCAs**. Under **PCCA, Tamilnadu alone there were 433 cases** according to our knowledge (Chennai Telephones – 225; Tamilnadu Telecom Circle – 192 & Southern Telecom Region – 16).

4. Almost all of them were appointed in 1990s as Regular Mazdoor or Gr.D. Restructuring scheme was introduced by DoT in 1990 and a new cadre called Phone Mechanic or Telecom Mechanic (now called as Telecom Technician) was introduced. To create one such post, two posts of Lineman are to be abolished. 100% recruitment was done through departmental exam. These RM or Gr.D were also eligible to become Phone Mechanic through a screening test and due training. The trained officials were kept waiting for want of post in the cadre of Phone Mechanic. This issue was discussed by the unions during that period and as a result, these trained, waiting officials were placed in Lineman scale in accordance with DoT order No. No.1-42/MPP-98(Pt.) dated **31/12/1998** (copy enclosed). As and when vacancies arose, they were promoted to Phone Mechanic cadre and accordingly their pay was fixed. We herebelow give one example for your perusal.

5. One Shri G.Rajendran was appointed as RM on 26/8/1992. He was selected to the cadre of Phone Mechanic and underwent that training from

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1/9/1997 to 24/10/1997. Due to want of vacancies in PM cadre, he was placed in Lineman scale of Rs.3050-4590 from 31/12/1998. He was appointed as Phone Mechanic on 3/6/1999 in the scale of 3200-4900. He retired on 31/1/2020 and his LPD fixed by BSNL was Rs.22390/-. But it was arbitrarily reduced by O/o PCCA, TN to Rs.21820/- (loss of Rs.570). He filed a grievance with DoT on 18/6/2020 under ticket No.2020061814314. He got a reply on 9/7/2020 stating that "Pensionary benefits are settled by taking the LPD Rs.21820/- is correct, since upgraded to LM scale 3050-75-4590 and pay drawn in the above temporary placement scale was not considered by DoT cell, Chennai and pay has been regulated for substantive post and the LPD arrived at the stage of Rs.21820/-". This is nothing but violation of statutory rule and the pensioner is facing a huge loss (copies of all documents are attached). This is not a solitary case but several hundreds of cases are like that.

6. We would like to point out that DoT is taking decisions in pension matters without consulting the nodal department i.e Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare. This is not the first time. Earlier they issued a clarification on 15/1/2003 stating that the last 10 months average includes both CDA & IDA pay. When DoP&PW asked DoT whether they referred the matter to them before taking the decision and if so they wanted copy of their consent. For that, DoT replied that the file is not traceable which is on record. We had to approach the Court to quash that clarificatory order of DoT.

In this case, we request you, sir, to issue necessary instructions to DoT with a copy to us.

SUBMISSION OF LIFE CERTIFICATES

Email dated Dt 21-7-2020

To
Member (Finance), Telecom,
New Delhi

Kindly refer your letter No. 47/15/TA-II/CPMS/2018/Part-I/1530-60 dated 19-5-2020 addressed to all Pr. CCAs and CCAs on the above subject in which the last date for submission of life certificate by BSNL retirees covered by SAMPANN was fixed as 31st July 2020.

2. The CCA offices were directed to conduct video calling to ascertain that pensioners are alive. But this could not be done by CCA offices for want of staff or other reasons.

3. It is needless to inform you that the situation all over the country has worsened now. If advisories from some experts like Director of AIIMS, New Delhi are taken, the situation may worsen further in the coming months.

4. Due to strict lockdown conditions, the Pensioners cannot go to CCA offices and submit their Life Certificates physically.

5. Even to submit Digital Life Certificate a pensioner has to go out to trace some Akshaya Centre with the facility. Most of the Akshaya Centres are nonfunctional now.

6. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has directed the elderly persons not to go out stating "Elderly people are at a higher risk of COVID-19 infection due to their decreased immunity and body reserves, as well as multiple associated comorbidities like diabetes, hypertension, chronic kidney disease and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease".

Therefore, In the existing alarming situation, we request you to kindly issue necessary instructions

a) extending the last date for submission of LC until normalcy is restored.

b) directing the CCA offices to use video calling facility to the extent possible and save pensioners, the elderly persons, from the risk.

LIFE CERTIFICATE

Another Email Dated 7-9-2020

This is in continuation of our Email dated 21-7-2020 on the subject.

Vide your letter No. 47/15/TA-II/CPMS/2018/Part-I/1530-60 dated 19-5-2020 addressed to all Pr. CCAs and CCAs the last date for submission of life certificate by BSNL retirees covered by SAMPANN was fixed as 31st July 2020.

2. The date was further extended to 30-9-2020.

3. The CCA offices were directed to conduct video calling to ascertain that pensioners are alive. But this could not be done by most of the CCA offices for want of staff or other reasons.

4. Needless to inform that the situation all over the country has further worsened. Even experts are unable to predict when normalcy will be restored.

5. Even to submit Digital Life Certificate a pensioner has to go out to trace some Akshaya Centre with the facility. Most of the Akshaya Centres are nonfunctional now.

6. Many of the pensioners face problems of comorbidity.

Therefore, In the existing situation, we request you to kindly issue necessary instructions extending the last date for submission of LC until normalcy is restored. Further, you have already instructed all CCA offices, vide your letter dated 3-9-2020, to start monthly pension processing by 20th of every month. As such, we request you to kindly issue immediate instructions on submission of Life Certificates.

EXTEND THE DATE TILL 31-12-2020

Email dated 22-9-2020 to
Member (Finance), Telecom, New Delhi

This is in continuation of our Emails dated 21-7-2020 and 7/9/2020 on the subject of submission of Life Certificate by BSNL Retirees covered by SAMPANN.

You are aware that the Department of Pension & Pensioners Welfare vide its OM dated 11-9-2020

CHQ TAKES UP ISSUES

has extended the period for submission of Life Certificates by all pensioners till 31st December 2020 taking the grave situation in the entire country due to Covid 19 into consideration.

But the DDG, Accounts, through a DO letter dated 11-8-2020 to CMD, BSNL has indicated that the Life certificates should be submitted by the BSNL retirees, covered by SAMPANN, latest by 30-9-2020. BSNL has been directed to arrange facility for generating the Life Certificate at least at one Customer Service Centre in each SSA with biometric device. You may be aware that in some SSAs pensioners residing in remote villages have to travel even 200 KMs or 300 KMs to reach such a CSC. Due to Covid19 most of the Akshaya Centres are not operational now. Pensioner has to go out in search of a Cyber Cafe or Akshaya Centre having the biometric authentication facility. It is very risky for the senior citizens and against the advisories issued by Ministry of Health.

As such, we once again request you to kindly extend the period for submission of Life Certificate by BSNL Pensioners covered under SAMPANN upto 31st December 2020 in line with the instructions issued by the nodal Department on Pension, the Department of Pension & Pensioners Welfare (Copy enclosed).

BSNLMRS: REVALIDATION OF CARDS

Email dated 4-9-2020

To
The Director (HR), BSNL, New Delhi 110001.
Ref: BSNL/Admn/2020/Medical dt. 29-6-2020

In view of the Covid 19 situation pan India the BSNL Corporate Office, vide the letter referred above, had extended the date for revalidation of BSNL MRS cards till 30-9-2020. Even now the situation is very serious in many metro cities and many states. Public transport is not operational at many places. The pensioners, senior

CHQ TAKES UP ISSUES

citizens, are prevented from going out of their residences. For revalidation of the MRS Cards the pensioners have to visit SSA offices. Hence we request you sir to kindly extend the cut off date further to 31-12-2020 or until further orders. An immediate action in this regard from your office will obviate unnecessary tension in the minds of pensioners.

[BSNL CO vide order dated 28-9-2020 has extended the date up to 31-3-2021.]

BSNLMRS: OPTION

Email dated 4-9-2020

To The Director (HR), BSNL

Ref: BSNL/Admn-1/2020/15-12/ dated 19-6-2020

In view of the Covid 19 situation pan India the BSNL Corporate Office, vide the letter referred above, had extended the date for exercising option by BSNL retirees till 30-9-2020. Even now the situation is very serious in many metro cities and many states. Public transport is not operational at many places. The pensioners, being senior citizens, are prevented from going out of their residences. For submitting option the pensioners have to visit SSA offices.

Most of the Retirees, except those who availed the VRS recently, have already given their option earlier either for 'With Voucher' or "Without Voucher" scheme. As such, the Retirees may please be permitted to continue their existing option, if they so desire, without taking pain to visit the SSA office in the present condition. Those who want to change their existing option only may be allowed to exercise fresh option. This will save the senior citizens from any risk and also reduce the work of staff in SSA offices. We hope you will consider this suggestion and issue instructions accordingly. We request you sir, in any case, to kindly extend the cut off date further to 31-12-2020 if at all fresh option is needed.

An immediate action in this regard from your office will obviate unnecessary tension in the minds of pensioners.

Another Email dated 22-9-2020

Email dated 22-9-2020

BSNL Corporate Office, vide the letter referred (1) above, had extended the date for exercising option by BSNL retirees till 30-9-2020 in view of Covid situation pan India. Similarly, the pensioners were asked to get their BSNLMRS cards revalidated before 30-9-2020 vide your letter dated 29-6-2020, referred (2) above.

Even now the situation is very serious in many metro cities and many states. Public transport is not normal at many places. The pensioners, being senior citizens, are prevented from going out of their residences. For submitting option or to get their MRS cards revalidated the pensioners have to visit SSA offices. Most of the Retirees, except those who availed the VRS recently, have already given their option earlier either for 'With Voucher' or "Without Voucher" scheme. Fact remains that no pensioner has received the reimbursement or the quarterly allowance for the last two years. Hence directing the pensioners to exercise fresh option will only cause unwanted risk to them in the present situation.

As such, the Retirees may please be permitted to continue their existing option, if they so desire, without taking pain to visit the SSA office in the present condition. Those who want to change their existing option only may be allowed to exercise fresh option. This will save the senior citizens from any risk and also reduce the work in SSA offices.

We request you sir,

1. To extend the cut off date further to 31-12-2020 for exercising option, if needed.

2. To treat existing BSNLMRS Cards held by Pensioners valid till 31-3-2021.

You are aware that the DoP&PW has issued orders on 11-9-2020 (Copy of which is enclosed) extending the date for submission of Life Certificates by all Central/State pensioners till 31-12-2020 to avoid such risks. An immediate action in this regard shall be appreciated.

MEDICARE FOR PENSIONERS

Letter dated 28-9-2020 to CMD BSNL

We approach you with a heavy heart seeking immediate action to save a generation which shed its blood and sweat for development of telecom infrastructure in India.

When the pandemic Covid19 started spreading, the advisories issued by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India states inter alia; “*Elderly people are at a higher risk of COVID-19 infection due to their decreased immunity and body reserves, as well as multiple associated co-morbidities like diabetes, hypertension, chronic kidney disease and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. Also, course of disease tends to be more severe in case of elderlies resulting in higher mortality*”

National Policy for Older Persons, 1999 states:

“Senior citizens who are aged above 60 years and especially those with medical conditions, such as chronic respiratory disease, heart, liver and kidney disease, neurologic conditions, diabetes, hypertension and cancer, are particularly susceptible to infections during these times..... The National Policy seeks to assure older persons that their concerns are national concerns and they will not live unprotected, ignored or marginalized. The goal of the National Policy is the well-being of older persons. It aims to strengthen their legitimate

place in society and help older persons to live the last phase of their life with purpose, dignity and peace.... Health care needs of older persons will be given high priority..... “

To combat the Covid situation, Union Health Ministry issued many instructions asking CGHS empaneled hospitals dedicated for COVID-19 to provide coronavirus-related treatment to its beneficiaries. CGHS made such special arrangements in this regard. We regret to note that BSNL Management has not only failed to take any such step when the whole nation, especially the Retirees, faced a grave situation but also it failed to honour the solemn assurances given to the senior citizens who worked for decades in DoT/DTS before migrating to BSNL. BSNL Management has been ignoring the medical care of the Retirees during the last few years. You may be aware that number of BSNL retirees expired due to coronavirus uncared for by BSNL.

Some BSNL Retirees suffering from kidney problems have departed this world as they could not afford to undergo dialysis because the bills they submitted have not been settled. The Company can never repair the damage nor can it reduce the woes of the bereaved family members. Many other Retirees are in utter distress as they cannot take treatment for cancer or cardiac problems because of nonpayment of their bills submitted.

We are told that the medical claims submitted by Retirees are not cleared due to financial crisis the company faces. The

quarterly medical allowance is not paid to those BSNL retirees who opted for “without voucher scheme’ under BSNL MRS with the same justification. We take such explanations with pinch of salt as we understand that medical claims submitted by serving staff are being cleared without any hurdle.

The BSNLMRS introduced in February 2003 is common for both serving and retired staff and it does not discriminate any particular section.

Medical Bills submitted by the serving staff up to September 2019 have been cleared and paid along with the salary of July 2020. We understand that bills from serving employees up to March 2020 will be paid soon. Whereas the Retirees who require much more medical care are waiting for reimbursement of their bills from April 2018. The Quarterly Allowance also is not paid to the Retirees since April 2018.

We sent several representations to you and Director HR in this regard during the last few months. It is a matter of regret that we have not received any response from your office till date. The Sr. GM concerned assured our Assist General Secretary that some funds would be allotted soon for clearing the bills from Retirees. Even after two months it is not honoured.

We, on behalf of 85000 BSNL retirees, once again request you to kindly allot sufficient funds to clear all pending medical claims from BSNL retirees and to pay the quarterly medical allowance remain unpaid till date.



Rules relaxed for divorced daughters to receive Family Pension:

PIB Press Release dated 26-9-2020

Rules have been relaxed for divorced daughters to receive Family Pension and now a daughter will be entitled to receive the Family Pension even if the divorce had not finally taken place but the divorce petition had been filed by her during the lifetime of her deceased parent employee/pensioner.

Disclosing this while briefing the media about some of the important reforms brought in by the Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh said that the earlier Rule provided for payment of Family Pension to a divorced daughter only if the divorce had taken place during the lifetime of deceased parent pensioner or his spouse. The new circular will not only bring ease in the life of pension receiving individuals but also ensure respectable and equitable rights for the divorced daughters in the society.

Orders have also been issued for grant of Family Pension to a Divyang child or sibling even if the Disability Certificate is produced after the death of the pensioner parent but the disability had occurred before the death of the parents. Similarly, to bring ease of living for the Divyang pensioners, Dr Jitendra Singh said, the Attendant Allowance for the helper has been increased from Rs. 4,500 per month to Rs..6,700 per month.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, one of the most noteworthy initiatives taken by the Pension Department is with regard to the Digital Life Certificate. Keeping in view the difficulty faced by the senior citizens who have gone and settled abroad with their children after retirement, he said, circular has been brought out on Consolidated Instructions on Life Certificate and commencement of Family Pension for those living abroad vide which the concerned Bank Branch abroad and the Indian Embassy/ Consulate/High Commission have been instructed to provide Life Certificate and commencement of Family Pension there itself.

At the same time, Dr Jitendra Singh said, all Pension Disbursing Banks have been instructed to provide doorstep Life Certificate to those pensioners who are unable to visit the bank.

GOVT/BSNL ORDERS

**REVIEW
PROFITABILITY OF
CPSEs**

DPE OM No W-02/0039/
2017-DPE(WC)-GL-XV/20
dated 21-8-2020

The undersigned is directed to refer DPE's OM No. No. W-02/0028/2017-DPE (WC_-GL-XIII/17 dard 03-08-2017 on the subject cited above. Para 3(iv) of the said OM, inter-alia, stipulates that **"Subsequent to implementation of pay revision, the profitability of a CPSE would be reviewed after every 3 years and (b) if the profitability of a CPSE falls in such a way that the earlier pay revision now entails impact of more than 20% of average PBT of last 3 years, then PRP/allowances will have to be reduced to bring down impact."**

2. Further, as per para 18 of the said DPE OM dated 03-08-2017 **"Presidential directives would be issued by the administrative Ministry concerned based on the result of reviews which is to be done after every 3 years"**.

3. Accordingly, all administrative Ministries/Department are requested to take necessary action to review the profitability of CPSEs under their administrative control in the light of provisions stipulated in the above mentioned DPE's OM dated 03-08-2017.

BSNLMRS:

**Outdoor medical claims:
BSNL Office order No BSNL/
Admn.1/15-12/18 dated 8-5-
2020**

The approval of competent authority is hereby conveyed for the following modifications in the procedure for outdoor medical reimbursement to BSNL employees (Serving/Retired).

1. **Serving Employees:**

The ceiling for outdoor medical claim with voucher in a financial year shall be 15 days (basic pay +DA). Remaining terms and conditions same as mentioned in OM No. BSNL/Admn.1/15-12/18 dated 19-07-2018 with Basic Pay + DA as on 01-04-2020. The Basic pay +DA as on 01-04-2010 will remain the basis of calculation till further orders.

2. **Retired Employees**

The following three options are allowed:

- a. C G H S
- b. 15 days pay with vouchers (Basic Pay +DA on date of retirement)
- c. Without Vouchers flat Rs 1000/- (one thousand) per month.

BSNLMRS:

**Outdoor medical claims:
BSNL Office order No
BSNLCO-ADMN/12(12)/I/
2020-ADMN dated 02-06-2020**

In view of the ongoing Covid19 pandemic and considering the difficulty being faced by the employees in getting the latest prescription or their other ongoing treatments due to lockdown, approval of the competent authority is hereby conveyed for allowing

outdoor medical claims with latest prescriptions available which are not older than six months. Outdoor treatment claims with vouchers may be settled accordingly. This is issued with approval of the competent authority.

**BSNL RESIDENTIAL
ACCOMMODATION**

BSNL CO order No. Nil dated
27-8-2020 to all CGMs

Ref: OM No 18011/2/2015-Pol.III) dated 07th July 2020 from Deptt. Of estates, GoI (Copy enclosed).

Kindly refer to SR Cell BSNO CO Office instructions/guidelines issued vide letter No. BSNL/6-1/SR/2015 dated 16-08-2017 wherein it was clarified that BSNL since its inception has been following the rulings/OMs issued by the Directorate of Estates, Ministry of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation, Govt of India from time to time for the allotment/retention of GPRA and their licence fees/penal or damage rent which are available on its website Estates.nic.in. It was also clarified that Premises of BSNL are Public Premises and rates/guidelines issued by Govt. of India /Directorate of Estates, from time to time, would be applicable to the employees occupying BSNL Quarters.

2 The Directorate of Estates vide its OM No.18011/2/2015-Pol.III dated 07th July 2020 (available on website estates.nic.in) has revised

GOVT/BSNL ORDERS

the flat rate of licence fee to be charged for the occupation of GPRA throughout the country w.e.f. 1st July 2020. The competent authority has decided that these rates would also be applicable for the BSNL residential accommodation.

3. It has been further decided that henceforth whenever the licence fee for General Pool Residential Accommodation (GPRA) is revised by the Directorate of Estates, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India, the same shall also be applicable to the BSNL Residential Accommodation unless the BSNL Corporate office specifically decided otherwise.

This is issued with the approval of competent authority.

Directorate of Estates
No. 18011/2/2015-Pol.III
Dated 07th July 2020

In suppression of this Directorate's OM of even number dated 29-6-2020 and in terms of the provisions of the Rule 74 of the "Central Government General Pool Residential Accommodation Rules 2017" the Government has decided to revise the licence fee recoverable for the residential accommodation available in General Pool and also in Departmental Pools of Ministries/ Departments of the Government of India throughout the Country (except in respect of substandard/ unclassified accommodation of Ministry of Defence

accommodation for service personnel of the Ministry of Defence and accommodation under the control of Ministry of Railways) as shown in the Annexure.

The revised rates of licence fee would be effective from 1st July 2020. All Ministries/Departments are requested to take action to recover the revised licence fee in accordance with these orders in respect of accommodation under their control all over the country,

This issues with the concurrence of integrated Finance Wing of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs vide their note dated 15-6-2020.

Type	Area (Sq.Mtr)	Fees
I	Up to 30	Rs 180
II	26-5 to 50	Rs 370
III	44 to 65	Rs 560
IV	59 to 91.5	Rs 750
IV(Spl)	59 to 91.5	Rs 790
V A	Up to 106	Rs 1400
V B	Beyond 106	Rs 1490
VIA	Upto 159.5	Rs 1840
VI B	Beyond 159.5	Rs 2200
VII	189.5 to 224.5	Rs 2580
VIII	143 to 522	Rs 4610

Note: In addition to the flat rates shown in the table above, the following rates for Servant quarters allowed independently of regular accommodation may be recovered:

1. Servant Quarte Rs 80
2. Garages Rs 50

For categories of Suite, living area and proposed flat rates of licence fee for Hostel accommodation:

Category	Area	New Rate
Single room without kitchen	21.5 to 30	Rs 470
Single room with kitchen	30.5 to 39.5	Rs 660
Double room	47.5 to 60	Rs 910

DoP&PW on Life Certificate

No. 18/1/2020-P&PW(C)-6681
dated 11th September 2020

Subject:-Extension of period for submission of Life Certificate from October 20 till December 20.

Every Central Government pensioner has to submit life certificate in the month of November for further continuation of his/her pension. It has been observed that a large number of Central Government pensioners physically visit bank branches for this purpose.

2. Earlier, as a measure to enable additional dedicated time to very senior pensioners, this department, vide its OM No. 1/20/2018-P&PW(E), dated 18.07.2019, allowed the pensioners in the age group of 80 years and above, to submit Life Certificate from 1st October onward instead of 1st November, every year.

3. In view of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic and keeping in view of the vulnerability of elderly population to Corona Virus, it has now been decided to extend the existing timeline for submission of Life Certificate. This year, all Central Government

pensioners may submit Life Certificate from 1st November, 2020 onward, till 31st December 2020. However, the pensioners in the age group of 80 years and above, can submit Life Certificate from 1st October, 2020 onwards, to 31st December, 2020. During this extended period, the pension will be continued to be paid by the Pension Disbursing Authorities (PDAs) uninterrupted.

4. Further, in the line of RBI notification no. RBI/2019-20/138, dated January 9, 2020, which permits Video based Customer Identification Process (V-CIP) as a consent based alternate method of establishing the customer's identity, PDAs may also explore the said methodology for obtaining a Life Certificate from the pensioner, to the extent permitted by RBI guidelines, in order to avoid rush at the branches.

5. The above measures are expected to avoid rush at branches and maintain social distancing, while obtaining Life Certificates from the elderly this year. PDAs shall also ensure proper arrangements and social distancing measures at the branches and prevent over crowding.

6. All Pension Disbursing Authorities are requested to take note of this OM for compliance and give wide publicity to the same amongst the pensioners.

This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

**DIGITAL LIFE
CERTIFICATES
SBI GBU/CC/2020-21/24 dated
21-9-2020 to DDG (A/c), DOT**

We are in receipt of your Department letter No. 401/TA-II/Misc.Corr/Part(1)/2432-2464 dated 18-08-2020 requesting us to formulate arrangement for submission of life certificate by Telecom pensioners through SBI branches.

We have pleasure in informing that our appropriate authority has accorded approval to your request. All the branches of SBI will facilitate DoT pensioners (maintaining accounts with SBI and whose pension is processed by DoT) their life certificates in physical or digital form without any charges as under:

a) Authorized bank official will verify physical life certificate of the pensioner based on records/documents available at the branches and PPO submitted by the pensioner.

b) Provide help in submission of life certificate by the pensioner in digital form (DLC) using jeevanpramaan facility at the branches.

2. Our branches have been advised suitably.

3. However the bank will not provide any report/MIS for this activity as it would require drawing out further resources. Similarly the bank will not incur any liability on account of any forgery in the authentication in the physical life certificate submitted by the pensioner.

CGHS NOMINEES

**Department of H& FW
OM No. S 11011/12/2013-
CGHS(P) dated 25-9-2020**

The undersigned is directed to state that the Ministry has been receiving representations from CGHS beneficiaries to introduce nomination facility whereby a person duly nominated by the principal CGHS cardholder can claim the reimbursement of expenses incurred on the medical treatment of the beneficiary in the event of unfortunate death of the principal card holder.

2. The matter has been examined in this Ministry in the context of difficulties being faced by the family members of a deceased CGHS cardholder in completing the prescribed formalities for claiming reimbursement of medical expenses. Accordingly, it has been decided with the approval of the competent authority to simplify the procedure and provide an option to the principal CGHS card holder beneficiary to nominate a person to claim reimbursement of medical expenses in the event of his/her unfortunate death.

3. The nomination facility shall be subject to following conditions:-

a) The nomination facility shall be available only to the CGHS pensioner cardholders.

b) Beneficiaries who wish to exercise this option shall submit their declaration of nomination in the prescribed 'Nomination Form' duly filled up and complete in all

respect, to the CMO In-charge of the CGHS Wellness Centre where the beneficiary is enrolled. [Proforma of Nomination Form enclosed]

c) CMO In-charge shall maintain a separate register 'Nomination Register' to record the particulars of the nomination submitted by the CGHS beneficiary in exercise of this option. Once the nomination details are recorded, the CMO In-charge shall forward the 'Nomination Form' to the card issuing authority, i.e., Addl. Director (HQ), CGHS in the case of Delhi and respective Additional Joint Director, CGHS in the case of other CGHS covered cities for making necessary entries in the

CGHS database after due scrutiny and approval of Additional Director, CGHS concerned.

d) The nomination shall be treated as valid only if the same has been entered in the CGHS data base.

e) Only one person shall be allowed to be nominated as the original nominee or first nominee. In addition, another person can also be nominated as 'alternate nominee or second nominee' who can claim reimbursement in case of unfortunate death of the first nominee.

f) The principal CGHS cardholder beneficiary can nominate any natural or juristic person as his/her nominee for this purpose, whether related or unrelated to him/her.

g) This option can be exercised at any time during the lifetime of the beneficiary. However, this option can be exercised only twice in the lifetime of the pensioner card holder.

h) In case, no option has been exercised during the life time of the CGHS pensioner beneficiary, the existing CGHS provision for claiming reimbursement of medical expenses, requiring submission of Affidavit by the claimant and NOCs from other legal heirs shall continue to apply.

4. This Office Memorandum will be effective from the date of its issue

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

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

4

Additional quantum of pension

20% of basic pension
 30% of basic pension
 0% of basic pension
 50% of basic pension
 100% of basic pension

(DoP&PW 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.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Till March-April 2020 issue of this Patrika we had published 44068 names of Life Members of our Association. After that , till 30-9-2020, we have received lists of 10000 more names. In 4 pages of an Issue, at an average, we can publish 800-850 names. At this rate, to publish all the 10000 names in waiting list it will take more than two years. By that time more names will be received. Therefore it is decided to publish the entire list in waiting in our Website frequently so that those comrades who became life members recently can check it. Ofcourse, as per constitution of AIBSNLPWA, the SSA Units have to maintain all records of membership. As on date, the Circlewise particulars of names in the waiting list are as:

Andhra	2331	Madhya pradesh	272
Assam	87	Odisha	144
Bihar	100	Punjab	549
Chhattisgarh	38	Rjasthan	15
Chennai TD	714	Telangana	840
Gujarat	151	Tamil Nadu	2922
Himchal	20	UP West	38
Haryana	41	West Bengal	15
Kerala	547	Total in Waiting List	10404
Karnataka	1446	published	44068
Maharastra	134	Gr. Total	54472

COVID OR NO COVID

We are happy to note the impressive improvement in the membership of some branches/circles during these difficult days.

Bengaluru SSA Unit has crossed life membership of 3000, emerging as the biggest district Unit of AIBSNLPWA in the entire country.

Gwalior District Unit has enrolled 209 new life members during the period.

Tamilnadu Circle had 9558 members (9060 Life and 498 Annual in August 2018. Now the Circle has 14583 membership (13474 Life and 1109 Annual). An increase of 5025 in last two years.

UP EAST CIRCLE CONFERENCE

List Of Office Bearers elected on 15-3-2020

Patron:	Com. Rama Shankar	Asst. Circle Secy:	Com. N D Tiwari
President:	Com. Babu Ram	Asst. Circle Secy:	Com. D C Batham
Vice President:	Com. S R Upadhyaya	Asst. Circle Secy:	Com. G D Pandey
Vice President:	Com. R B Trivedi	Asst. Circle Secy:	Com. S K Srivastava
Vice President:	Com. S Parihar	Asst. Circle Secy:	Com. A K Jha
Vice President:	Com. K N Yadav	Asst. Circle Secy:	Com. Om Prakash
Vice President:	Com. V S Avasthi	Org. Secretary:	Com. Ravindra Kumar
Vice President:	Com. M D Saraf	Org. Secretary:	Com. D K Gupta
Vice President:	Com. M D Ram	Org. Secretary:	Com. Ram Kusal Yadav
Vice President:	Com. R K Gupta	Org. Secretary:	Com. Ramesh Chandra
Vice President:	Com. D N Mishra	Org. Secretary:	Com. Jiyalal Verma
Circle Secretary:	Com. J N Dubey	Org. Secretary:	Com. R K Tiwari
Dy. Circle Secy:	Com. R K Shahant	Tresurer:	Com. Dhani Ram Verma
sst. Circle Secy:	Com. A D Joshi	Asst. Treasurer:	Com. R S Pandey
Asst. Circle Secy:	Com. A J Singh	Auditor	Com. R B S Yadav

FORM IV (See Rule 8) PENSIONERS PATRIKA

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I, G. Natarajan, hereby declare that the particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

15-3-2020

Sd/-
(G. Natarajan)

LIFE CERTIFICATES: 2020

Dear Comrades,

It is mandatory that every Pensioner must submit Life Certificate once in an year. Else, pension will be stopped. Now there are two types of Pensioners in Telecom.

1. SAMPANN covered pensioners.

They are newly retired people; retired in 2019 or 2020. Their Pension is processed by CCA offices. CCAs credit the amount every month in the account of pensioner in Bank/Post Office. Bank or PO does not keep the records related to their pension. Hence SAMPANN pensioners should submit Life Certificate (Digital or physical) to CCA only; not to Bank or PO. If the Pension account is with SBI, such pensioners can take help of SBI branch to generate DLC using the platform of [jeevanpramaan](#). While doing so the Disbursing agency should be shown as CCA..... (name of Circle). The DLC will automatically go online to CCA of the circle. DLC can be generated in any cyber cafe with biometric device also.

2. Non-SAMPANN Pensioners.

They are earlier pensioners retired from BSNL or DOT, before 2019. Their pension is processed by their Bank or Post Office, as the case may be. All documents concerning their pension are with either the Bank CPPC or the Postal Dept. Hence they should submit LC/DLC to the Bank or PO. Please don't send LC to CCA office.

It is better to submit the LC to the particular branch of the Bank where Pension Account is. Visit the bank with PPO and Passbook. If you are out of station, you can go to any branch of the particular Bank and submit it. If you are drawing pension through post office, please submit the LC to that Post Office itself. Here also, pensioners can use the platform of [jeevanpramaan](#). The Disbursing Agency should be shown as Bank (e.g; SBI...).

To generate the physical LC, collect the required form from Bank/PO, fill it up, sign it and give it there itself.

WHEN ? (for non-SAMPANN)

If you are 80 years and above you can submit the LC/DLC in October or November or December 2020. *{This year due to Covid 19, the time is extended to 31st December as a special case. Normally it is in October and November only.}*

If you are below 80 years of age, it should be submitted either in November or in December 2020. *{Note: This year due to Covid 19, the time is extended to 31st December as a special case. Normally it is in November only.}*

PENSIONERS PATRIKA

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