

PENSIONERS' PATRIKA

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THE ANGER



PROTEST: WIDESPREAD, EXPLICIT & EMPHATIC



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PENSIONERS PATRIKA

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Editorial

BEWARE OF THE ANGER OF SENIORS

Our association had a clear vision on Pension revision. We formulated the demand which would provide pension revision even for future retirees who opted combined service Government pension. We were clear that it requires political decision. We had several rounds of discussions with concerned authorities for many years. On our request several MPs raised the issue on the floor of parliament. We met then MoC Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad twice. Both inside and outside parliament Hon MoC took a position that "without pay revision no pension revision". In this background we resorted to litigation which is still pending.

When there was a change of guard, we took efforts to meet new MoC Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw and met him in March 2022 and he openly told that "pension revision and pay revision can't go together". As per his instructions things started moving but babus in sanchar bhawan continued their apathy and again file got stuck up. We once again met MoC in July 2022 and made the file to move. We took efforts to unite other pensioners' associations who agree on the demand. There was good progress then. Delinking was accepted but proposed zero percent fitment.

On our demand Member (S) convened a meeting on 17th October 2022 in which 14 pensioners' associations attended and all of them in one voice rejected zero percent fitment. 11 pensioners' associations submitted a joint memorandum demanding 7th CPC fitment factor. It was agreed by Member (S) not to go ahead with zero percent but the percentage will be decided in consultation with higher-ups.

As the progress was slow, our AIC in consultation with other five pensioners' associations decided for three phase programme of action. We again met MoC in December 2022 and he agreed to follow-it-up. All the three phases of programmes were successfully conducted throughout the country. Pensioners enthusiastically participated. They showed their anger against the inordinate delay. Member (S) Dr MaheshShukla retired in January 2023 and a new Member has taken over. It is understood that DoT is in touch with DoE because ultimately it has to be cleared by DoE.

We expect that MoC Shri Ashvini Vaishnaw is capable to control the bureaucrats. BSNL/MTNL Pensioners have emphatically demonstrated their anger and protest on 19th December 2022, 17/18th January 2023 and 8th February 2023. We hope that the Minister will not force the senior citizens to resort to more agitational programmes. □



Dear friends,

I greet all our members who actively participated in the agitational programmes called by our last AIC (in consultation with other five pensioners' associations who also demand 7th CPC fitment factor for pension revision) to achieve our long pending demand of pension revision. Thousands of pensioners in all the Circles, despite age related problems and cold wave, expressed their strong protest against undue delay in taking a decision by DoT on the issue. CHQ received more than 1500 photos of the programme. Only few can be given in this journal.

The Hon'ble Minister was convinced of the justification to delink pension revision from pay revision in BSNL/MTNL in March 2022 itself when we met him. He clearly told that pay is paid by BSNL to its employees but pension is paid from budgetary allocation and both are different. He also informed that our demand was genuine and justified. Accordingly he gave instructions to the concerned authorities. But things are not moving in Sanchar Bhawan even with normal speed. Delinking was confirmed by Member(S) to the leaders of 14 pensioners' associations on 17/10/2022. But DoT asked BSNL to intimate the pay scales proposed to be implemented for

the Non Executives in BSNL. For the Executives there is only one pay-scale given by DPE. But there are three types of pay-scales for Non-executives proposed at different points of time by BSNL. We are unable to understand the need for seeking the pay-scale after delinking pension revision from pay revision. Pay scales become relevant only in the context of pay revision. So, linking pension revision with pay scales is nothing but a 'cloak and mask' method to link pension revision with pay revision. Thus some officers in DoT having a negative attitude towards pensioners are successful to negate the directive from the Minister. We hope that Shri Vaishnavji is capable of handling the situation.

Pension revision is not an issue for the new recruits. They are facing a different type of attack. It is the net result of economic policies initiated in 1990s by the then Government and followed assiduously by the present Government. For us pension is the safest social security system. After large scale VRS in 2020 and subsequent retirements during 2020-22 number of staff in BSNL has come down. As on 31/03/2021 total BSNL staff was only 64,536 out of which 50% are 'direct recruits'. They are not bothered about pension revision. The remaining absorbed employees will retire by 2026/27 and they will be beneficiaries of our efforts to a get decision on a scheme for future pension revision. DoT should not punish its employees, numbering about four lakhs, for joining BSNL two

decades ago trusting upon the solemn assurances given by the Government then.

The six organizations which organized the three phases of agitational programme on 19th December 2022, 17/18 January 2023 and 8th February 2023 are firm on their demand for pension revision with CPC fitment benefits. Another organization, affiliated with BMS, also has placed the same demand, though they have not joined our programmes. A Joint Forum of some other Associations sent a memorandum to Hon MoC on 25/01/2023. In this, they have only demanded 15% fitment without mentioning 3rd PRC. Not only that, they have stated in that letter that the 3rd PRC recommendations are only for serving executives and it has no relevance to pension revision even remotely. This realization is better 'late than never'. We are demanding 14.55% increase in total pension whereas they are demanding 15%. There is not much difference in quantum of benefit. But our demand is based on certain logic and rationality which would help to sail with 68 lakh Central Govt. pensioners in future. These 8 organisations having dropped the concept of 3rd PRC may join with our demand which would strengthen the unity and it will not give room for DoT officers to play tricks. It is only an appeal for them to consider. Prejudices should not block the future.

Our fight is not over. It shall continue.

V Varaprasad, GS

IWD 2023

The theme for International Women's Day, 8 March 2023 (IWD 2023) is, "DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality". This theme is aligned with the priority theme for the upcoming 67th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW-67), "Innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls".

The United Nations Observance of IWD recognizes and celebrates the women and girls who are championing the advancement of transformative technology and digital education. IWD 2023 will explore the impact of the digital gender gap on widening economic and social inequalities. The event will also spotlight the importance of protecting the rights of women and girls in digital spaces and addressing online and ICT-facilitated gender-based violence.

Bringing women and other marginalized groups into technology results in more creative solutions and has greater potential for innovations that meet women's needs and promote gender equality. Their lack of inclusion, by contrast, comes with massive costs: as per UN Women's Gender Snapshot 2022 report, women's exclusion from the digital world has shaved \$1 trillion from the gross domestic product of low- and middle-income countries in the last decade—a loss that will grow to \$1.5 trillion by 2025 without action. Reversing this trend will require tackling the

problem of online violence, which a study of 51 countries revealed 38 per cent of women had personally experienced.

A gender-responsive approach to innovation, technology and digital education can increase the awareness of women and girls regarding their rights and civic engagement. Advancements in digital technology offer immense opportunities to address development and humanitarian challenges, and to achieve the 2030 Agenda's Sustainable Development Goals. Unfortunately, the opportunities of the digital revolution also present a risk of perpetuating existing patterns of gender inequality. Growing inequalities are becoming increasingly evident in the context of digital skills and access to technologies, with women being left behind as the result of this digital gender divide. The need for inclusive and transformative technology and digital education is therefore crucial for a sustainable future.

The United Nations Observance of International Women's Day under the theme, "DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality", will be marked by a high-level event on Wednesday, 8 March 2023, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. EST. The event will bring together technologists, innovators, entrepreneurs, and gender equality activists to provide an opportunity to highlight the role of all stakeholders in improving access to digital tools and be followed by a high-level panel discussion and musical performances.



HOUSE WIFE IS HOMEMAKER & UNPAID WORKER

Notional Income of Homemakers must be calculated based on the principles of fairness, equality and good conscience:
Supreme Court of India

Calculation of notional Income of Homemakers must be on the basis of their work, labour and sacrifices. The Supreme Court while deciding upon an insurance claim case gave utmost importance to promote gender equality in the country. The bench also observed that, “furtherance of our Nation’s International Law obligations and our Constitutional Vision of Social Equality and ensuring dignity to all.” The Supreme Court presided over by J. N.V. Ramana, J. S.A. Nazeer & J. S. Kant laid down this ratio in the case of Kriti & Anr. Vs. Oriental Insurance Company Limited, [Civil Appeal Nos. 19-20 of 2021 - Disposed in January 2021]

The Supreme Court was dealing with an Insurance Dispute in this case. In the year 2014 a couple met with an accident and died. The husband was working as a teacher and the wife was a housewife. The couple had three surviving dependents i.e. two minor daughters and father of the deceased. The Court while deciding upon the insurance claim was deciding upon the monthly income of the deceased woman who was a homemaker.

The Supreme Court on this particular issue was of the opinion that, “Any compensation awarded by a Court ought to be just, reasonable and consequently must undoubtedly be guided by principles of fairness, equity, and good conscience.” Further, on the deciding how to

determine the notional income of homemakers stated that, “On an average, women spend nearly 299 minutes a day on unpaid domestic services for household members versus 97 minutes spent by men on average. Similarly, in a day, women on average spend 134 minutes on unpaid caregiving services for household members as compared to the 76 minutes spent by men on average. The total time spent on these activities per day makes the picture in India even more clear- women on average spend 16.9 and 2.6 percent of their day on unpaid domestic services and unpaid caregiving services for household members respectively, while men spent 1.7 and 0.8 percent.”

The Court further elaborating upon Gender Equality & Analysis stated that, “The sheer amount of time and effort that is dedicated to household work by individuals, who are more likely to be women than men, is not surprising when one considers the plethora of activities a housemaker undertakes. A housemaker often prepares food for the entire family, manages the procurement of groceries and other household shopping needs, cleans and manages the house and its surroundings, undertakes decoration, repairs and maintenance work, looks after the needs of the children and any aged member of the household, manages budgets and so much more.”

Lastly the court stated that, “The attempt of the Court in such matters should therefore be towards determining, in the best manner possible, the truest approximation of the value added by a homemaker for the purpose of granting monetary compensation.”

WIDESPREAD PROTEST

Six organizations representing BSNL/MTNL retirees issued a call for organizing massive dharnas on 17th and 18th January, 2023 in front of CCA offices and SSA headquarters to record protest against the deliberate attempt by top echelons in DoT to delay a decision of pension revision. Despite severe cold wave in North Indian states, the programme was organized in all the Circles, the retirees recording their emphatic protest. We have received more than 1000 photographs of the programme from the following stations. For want of space we cannot give all photos here in the journal. Few only could be given. We hope that the comrades will realize the practical difficulty in printing all photos.... Editor

Adilabad	Dehradun	Kottayam	Raichur
Agra	Delhi	Kumbakonam	Rajahmundry
Ahmedabad	Dharmapuri	Kurnool	Ramnad
Ahmednagar	Dharwad	Lakhimpur	Rewari
Akola	Eluru	Latur	Salem
Aligarh	Ernakulam	Lucknow	Sambalpur
Alleppey	Erode	Lucknow	Sangareddy
Ambala	Etah	Ludhiana	Sasaram
Amritsar	Ferozpur	Madurai	Satara
Anantapur	Ghaziabad	Mahabubnagar	Sholapur
Ara	Gorakhpur	Malappuram	Sitapur
Bangalore	Guntur	Mangalore	Sivaganga
Bareilly	Gwalior	Meerut	Solan
Bhandara	Hajipur	Morena	Srikakulam
Bhavnagar	Hajipur	Motihari	Surendranagar
Bhopal	Hamirpur	Mumbai	Thanjavur
Bhubaneswar	Hasan	Muradabad	Tirunelveli
Bhuj	Hubli	Mysore	Tirupati
Bidar	Hyderabad	Nadiad	Trichur
Bijapur	Indore	Nagarkoil	Trichy
Bijnor	Jabalpur	Nagpur	Trivandrum
Bilaspur	Jaipur	Nalgonda	Tumakur
Calicut	Jalandhar	Nellore	Tuticorin
Chandrapur	Jamshedpur	Ongole	Udaipur
Chapra	Kannur	Osmanabad	Vellore
Chennai	Karaikudi	Palakkad	Vijayawada
Chickamagalur	Karwar	Paramkudi	Virudhunagar
Coimbatore	katihar	Pathanamthitta	Vishakhapatnam
Coonor	Khammam	Patiala	Vizianagaram
Cuddalore	Kolar	Patna	Warangal
Cuttack	Kolkata	Prayagraj	Wardha
Davangere	Kollam	Puducherry	

CHQ LETTERS

PENSION REVISION

Email Date: 08 /11/2022
to Secretary (T), New Delhi - 110001

At the outset, we thank for the meeting arranged under the chairmanship of Member (S) for consulting the pensioners' associations, the stake-holders, on 17th October 2022 on the above subject.

2) We are at a loss to understand that 'why DoT wants a new pay-scale for BSNL/MTNL employees for pension revision from 1/1/2017'.

3) Pension revision is based on existing pension plus DR plus percentage of fitment and it has no reference to pay-scale. We may draw your kind attention to Para 3.1 & 3.2 of Cabinet Memo prepared by DoT (F.No.40-17-2008-Pen(T) before the last pension revision. Your kind attention is also drawn to para 4.1 of DoT OM dated 15th March 2011.

4) Para 3.3 of the above-referred cabinet memo and para 4.2 of DoT OM dated 15/3/2011 is not relevant because after merger of pension plus DR plus fitment, the consolidated basic pension shall not be less than 50% of minimum of corresponding pay-scale.

5) Pay-scales for BSNL and MTNL are different

6) The proposal suggested by DoT for pre-2007 retirees (their LPD may be notionally brought to II PRC and then to III PRC) may not be a workable solution. If you take the pay-scales suggested by BSNL in 2018 in the negotiating committee, problems may arise. For example, NE-9 scale for pre-2007 retirees was 7100-10100 and 10100 plus 78.2% plus 30% weightage would come to Rs.23400. 10100 is in the 15th stage of 7100-10100 scale. If point to

point fixation is applied then it has to be fixed at Rs.26190 whereas the corresponding scale of II PRC is only 13600-25420 (maximum is only 25420). It is similar in NE-10 & NE-11 also.

7) As reported in 'RoD' no association has told that in BSNL the wage-negotiation is in the final stage. It may take more time and there was no negotiation at all in MTNL.

8) For higher pension contribution from BSNL/MTNL it can be discussed between DoT and those two PSU managements and arrive at a solution.

9) So, DoT need not wait for the new pay-scale from BSNL & MTNL.

10) There are only two concepts put-forth by the pensioners associations for pension revision from 1/1/2017 i.e. 7th CPC fitment factor & 15% as per 3rd PRC.

11) 3rd PRC is only to recommend pay/perk revision for Executives and it has no terms of reference for pension revision whereas 7th CPC terms of reference includes pension revision (for ready reference both terms of references are attached).

12) We have already quoted constitutional courts' judgements to treat the CPSE retirees (IDA pensioners like FCI) who opted for government pension on combined service, at par with C.G pensioners.

13) 3rd PRC recommended 5%, 10% & 15% fitment factor depending upon the financial viability of the respective CPSEs for pay revision only.

14) BSNL/MTNL combined service government pension optees are different from other CPSE retirees. The terminal benefits of other CPSE retirees are restricted to 30% of Pay plus DA and they are bound by DPE guidelines even after retirement. Their pension is paid from pension

fund created by the respective CPSEs. But in the case of BSNL/MTNL retirees, retirement benefits are borne by Government out of budgetary estimate and the benefits are in accordance with CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972/2021.

15) There is no need to seek amendment to Rule 37(15) as stated by DoT. We would like to point out that without amending Rule 31 & 32 of CCS (Pension) Rules, DoP&PW issued orders for implementing option 3 of 7th CPC revising the pension of lakhs of C.G pensioners based on notional pay.

16) In the light of above factors, we once again reiterate that DoT, the deciding authority, on behalf of GoI, to consider pension revision of BSNL/MTNL pensioners who opted for government pension on combined service on the basis of 7th CPC fitment factor. It would be a permanent solution.

PENSION REVISION

Email dated 28/11/2022

To Secretary (T), DoT, New Delhi

Ref: DoT letter No.47-63/2022-Pen(T)part.
Dated 17/11/2022

We are constrained to bring to your kind notice the following facts for your consideration please.

2. The substance of the letter is not only to deny pension revision on the basis of 7th CPC fitment factor, but negates the version of Member (S) on 17/10/2022 declared in the presence of 15 pensioners' associations. He categorically told that Hon.MoC and DoP&PW cleared for delinking pension revision from pay revision. He also told that zero percent fitment will not be pursued and at the same time 15% also cannot be given. In consultation with Secretary & MoC the percentage will be decided which will be between zero percent & 15%. The above-referred 17th November 2022 letter takes us 'back to square one'. **We would like to**

politely point out that the credibility of DoT is at stake.

3. We are thankful for supplying copy of PPP clippings as we requested for.

4. The above-referred letter once again quotes various CAT judgements to justify that we are not Central Govt. pensioners. We have quoted High Courts and Supreme Court judgements which are in our favour and these constitutional courts' judgements are higher than CAT judgements which anyone would agree. Why DoT is silent on the judgements pronounced by the constitutional courts cited by us. **Is it because they do not suit DoT's requirement or selective demensia?**

5. Quoting CAT Hyderabad Bench order dated 10/12/2018 in OA No.12/2017, PPP stated "**the applicant seeks application of rules selectively of both Government and BSNL, in order to take advantage of the best among the better of the rules in the two institutions**"

The fact of getting IDA pay from 1/10/2000 is in accordance with Apex Court judgement dated 3/5/1990 followed by DPE OM dated 12/6/1990 that any PSU started after 1/1/1989 should only have IDA pay-scales and DA on IDA pattern. Further, Government only offered a minimum increase of Rs.2500/- p.m. for Executives and Rs.1500/- p.m. for non-executives to lure the employees to opt for BSNL from DoT. Now, the DoT officers cannot be jealous of that fact that we are getting more than C.G.employees. **So, it is not getting the best among the better.**

6. To deny 7th CPC fitment factor, the above-referred letter quotes Rule 37(5) of CCS (Pension) Rules, 2021. On absorption, the employees do not cease to be government employee according to Kerala HC and Apex Court judgment (15/12/1995). Why DoT is not considering these judgements have to be specifically spelt out. Further, as per PPP, DoP&PW which is the nodal agency did not say anything even though DoT brought this provision of Rule 37(5).

7. Please clarify why the absorbees of BSNL are not getting gratuity in accordance with Payment of Gratuity Act 1972 which other CPSE retirees are getting. In our view it is because of section 2(e) of the act which states **“any person who holds a post under the Central Government or a State Government and is governed by any other Act or by any rules providing for payment of gratuity”**. By denying the benefit of gratuity under P.G Act 1972, BSNL retirees have lost in lakhs and the Government has gained thousands of crores of rupees. **Does it imply that DoT took advantage of the best among the better of the rules?**

8. We once again reiterate that we are BSNL retirees but Central Government pensioners.

9. We are willing for an open discussion with any authority and requests DoT to get out of the prejudiced mind-set that we are getting more and wants still more.

PENSION REVISION

Email dated 30/11/2022 To Secretary (Telecom), New Delhi-110001

This is in continuation of our letter dated 28/11/2022.

We have indulged in serious discussion for more than 5 years on the above subject. DoT is rejecting the demand of pension revision on the basis of 7th CPC fitment factor without any valid, logical, legal argument. All the points mentioned by the officers of DoT were countered with relevant material and legal points.

The letter of 17th November 2022 which is in contrast with the discussion held on 17th October 2022 with Member (S) is nothing but adding injury to the wound. Pensioners are very much agitated because of the negative approach of DoT.

We will be compelled to go for agitational programme of action in the 2nd or 3rd week of December 2022 throughout the country. Our All India Conference which is meeting in Visakhapatnam on 2nd & 3rd December 2022 shall decide the chain programme of action throughout the country.

This is for your kind information please.

NOTIONAL INCREMENT FOR PENSION

CHQ Email dated 26-12-2022 to Secretary, DoP&PW

Ref 1. DoPT OM dated 3/2/2021 denying notional increment for pensionary benefits quoting Hon Supreme Court Judgement dtd.29/3/2019

2. DoPT OM dated 22/11/2022 stating that the issue is under examination

We submit the following few lines for your kind consideration with a request for issuing a general order on the above subject.

2.The Division Bench of Hon. Madras High Court in WP No.15732 of 2017 of P Ayyamperumal Vs The Registrar, CAT & 3 others delivered a judgement for granting one notional increment since the petitioner completed one full year as on 30/6/2013 and retired on that date.

3. Against the above judgement Uol filed SLP (Civil) Diary No.22283 of 2018 which was dismissed by Hon. Supreme Court on 23/7/2018 stating *“On the facts, we are not inclined to interfere with the impugned judgement and order passed by the High Court of Judicature at Madras”*.

4. Against the dismissal of above SLP, Uol filed a review petition © No.1731 of 2019 which was also dismissed by Hon Supreme Court on 8/8/2019.stating *“We have considered the review*

petition on merits. In our opinion, no case for review of order dated 23rd July, 2018 is made out. Consequently the review petition is dismissed on merits”.

5. Recently Delhi HC in its decision dated 13th January, 2020 in W.P © 5539/2019 in Arun Chibber Vs Uol **rejected the contention of the Respondent therein that the judgement had to be treated as one that was “in personam and not in rem”**. Against this judgement, Uol filed SLP in Hon Supreme Court (SLP C Disary No.13959 of 2020) which was dismissed on 13/10/2020. Review petition was also dismissed by Hon. Supreme Court by order dated 26/7/2022.

6. More recently Hon. Allahabad High Court delivered a judgement on 15/12/2022 stating *“that the employees who retired on 30th June are entitled to the last increment made effective on 1st July”*.

7. According to the Apex Court, *“A judgement in rem determines the status of a person or thing as distinct from the particular interest in it of a party to the litigation; and such a judgement is conclusive evidence for and against all persons whether parties, privies or strangers of the matter actually decided”*.

8. In view of the above factors, the issue has come to a finality. The issue is finally decided legally and DoPT can't claim that the judgement is **“ in personam and not in rem”**.

9. May we request DoPT to issue an unambiguous general order to grant one notional increment for pensionary benefits for those who completed one full year after the last increment and retired without getting the increment.

EXTRA INCREMENT CASE of TN

Email to DDG (Est) dated 6-1-2023.

We bring to your kind notice the following issue

for issuing necessary orders without further delay.

2nd National Council held on 28/5/2003 decided to grant one extra increment to BCR Gr.III officials who did not get Gr.IV promotion one year before retirement. It is for pensionary benefit also.

DoT vide its OM No.40-12/2004-Pen(T) dated 27/7/2009 endorsed it for pensionary benefits as a special case.

This was implemented by all PCCAs/CCAs., Even under PCCA, TN, thousands of pensioners got that benefit without any problem. Only about 600 pensioners are left out. Few of them died during the interregnum.

May we request you, madam, to give suitable instruction to PCCA, TN to extend that benefit to those left-out pensioners during their life-time.

LPD CASE OF TN & AP

Email DDG(Estt) dated 6-1-2023

We have already sent the copy of our letter on the above subject along with a copy of DDG (Accts) order dated 2/12/2020 signed by Ms. Vandana Gupta.

We were asked to provide signed copy of the letter. Accordingly our Dy. GS. Shri Anupam Kaul made over the signed copy of that order in person to you, madam, yesterday (5/1/2023). In the light of clear statutory rulings, above-quoted DoT order after seeking the clarification from the nodal agency i.e. DoP&PW, we request you to give clear instruction to PCCA TN & CCA, Andhra to restore their original LPD (because the rules give them authority to verify the emoluments only 24 months prior to date of retirement and not before that). Though above-referred DoT order dated 2/12/2020 was endorsed to all PCCAs/CCAs, it was not implemented by PCCA TN & CCA, Andhra only.

May we request you, madam, to give them necessary order for implementation with a copy to us.

COMMUTATION

Commutation of Pension is a matter of confusion for many. *The Handbook on Pension and Pensionary Benefits*, released by Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare, gives a clear description of the matter. Still clarifications are sought and given again and again. Few clarifications issued recently by DoP&PW are given in next pages. These rules are applicable to BSNL retirees also.

In simple words, Commutation of Pension is an advance in lump sum you take from your own future pension. 40% of Basic Pension is the maximum allowed. Same amount per month will be recovered from your pension for 180 months. Total amount (Commutated Value) is calculated based on a Table.

The calculation of CV till December 2005 was: **40% x 12 x 9.81**. (This 9.81 is called 'purchase value'. It depends upon the age of the Retiree. If someone retires voluntarily before attaining the age of 60 he gets higher Purchase Value). It means that you get 9.81 times of 40% of your yearly pension in advance. It comes to 40% of 117.7 (say 118) months' pension. This 'Purchase value' of 9.81 was reduced to 8.194 by Sixth CPC. The CV came down to 98 months from 118 months; but recovery remains at 180 months itself.

If the pensioner is alive for 180 months (15 years) after retirement full recovery will take place. In case of his death, no recovery will be effected from the family pension. That is the justification for Government taking huge amount as interest from us. Recently, before the Assembly elections, Gujarat government reduced the recovery period to 12 years. Some pensioners expect that central government will follow suit. Better they wait for the next Lok Sabha elections.

Simple calculation of a case study

Mr. X retired on superannuation (age 60) on 31-1-2004 with LPD of Rs 11175. He was granted a basic pension of Rs 5588. He applied for commutation. 40% of his Basic Pension was Rs 2235.2. In the matter of commutation, fraction is ignored. Hence he was allowed to commute Rs 2235. He was getting pension as:

In February 2004;

Basic Pension:	Rs. 5588.00
51.4% IDA:	Rs. 2872.23
Total pension:	Rs. 8460.23
Rounded off to:	Rs. 8461.00
Deduct Commuted	- Rs. 2235.00
He got net pension of	Rs 6226.00

It is called **Residual Pension**.

In February 2017;

Basic Pension::	Rs. 12946.00
(as revised from 2007)	
119.5% IDA:	Rs. 15470.47
Total pension:	Rs. 28416.47
Rounded off to:	Rs. 28417.00
Deduct Commuted	: - Rs. 2235.00
(No change)	
Residual Pension:	Rs. 26182.00

In February 2023 :

Basic Pension:	Rs.12946.00
201.2 % IDA:	Rs. 26047.35
Total pension:	Rs. 38993.35
Rounded off to:	Rs. 38994.00
Deduct Commuted:	Nil
(Full amount recovered by January 2019)	
Residual Pension:	Rs. 38994.00

[If pay is revised with retroactive effect, pension and commuted portion will change. That is a different study. Above is a normal case of a pensioner retired on superannuation.]

ORDERS

COMMUTATION VALUE

DOP&PW OM No. 42/15/2022-
P&PW(D)/2
Dated 25-10-2022

In accordance with proviso to Fundamental Rule [FR-56(a)], a Government servant whose date of birth is the first of a month shall retire from service on the afternoon of the last day of the preceding month.

2. References/Representations have been received in this Department seeking clarification as to which commutation value is to be taken in cases where a Government servant whose date of birth is first of a month and who retires from service on the afternoon of the last day of the preceding month.

3. In such cases, *pension* becomes due from the day following the date of retirement. Further, as per Rule 6(1)(i-a) of CCS(Commutation of Pension) Rules, the commutation of pension shall become absolute on the day following the date of retirement. Therefore, the retiring Government servant will be eligible for commutation of pension on the day following the date of his retirement and the commutation value expressed as number of year's purchase will be age on next birthday.

4. Accordingly, in the case of such Government servants who retire on attaining the age of 60 years, the age next birthday will be 61 years, including in cases where the date of birth is first of a month and the Government servant retires on the afternoon of the

last day of the preceding month. Therefore, the commutation value of 61 years (i.e age on next birthday) will be applicable in this case.

COMMUTATION AFTER PAY REVISION

DOP&PW OM No.42/15/2022-
P&PW(D)/3 Dated 25-10-2022

In accordance with Rule 5 of CCS (Commutation of Pension) Rules, 1981, a Government servant can commute for a lump-sum payment of an amount not exceeding 40 per cent of his pension.

2. Doubts have been raised as to which pension i.e pension authorized at the time of retirement or the pension revised subsequently and payable at the time of application for commutation shall be allowed to be commuted.

3. As per Rule 10 of CCS (Commutation of Pension) Rules, 1981, an applicant who has commuted a percentage of his final pension and after commutation his pension has been revised and enhanced retrospectively as a result of Government's decision, the applicant shall be paid the difference between the commuted value determined with reference to enhanced pension and the commuted value already authorized. For the payment of difference, the applicant shall not be required to apply afresh.

4. This Department's OM No. 42/14/2016-P&PW (G) dated 24.10.2016 provides that those pensioners who retired from 01.01.2016 till

04.08.2016 i.e the date of issue of orders for revised pay/pension based on the recommendations of the 7th CPC may be given an option, in relaxation of Rule 10 of CCS (Commutation of Pension), Rules, 1981, not to commute the pension which has become additionally commutable on revision of pay/pension on implementation of recommendations of the 7th CPC. The cases where the additional pension after 7th CPC has already been commuted will not be re-opened.

5. In cases where the pension was authorized on retirement before 01.01.2016 and the pensioner applied for commutation on or after 01.01.2016, the pension which was originally sanctioned at the time of retirement only shall be allowed to be commuted.

DR ON PENSION

DOP&PW OM No. 42/15/2022
P&PW(D) Dt 25-10-2022

In accordance with Rule 52 of CCS (Pension) Rules, 2021, Dearness Relief on Pension and Family Pension against price rise is granted to Pensioners including the persons drawing compassionate allowance under Rule 41 and Family Pensioners at such rates and subject to such conditions as the Central Government may specify from time to time.

2. References/Representations have been received in this Department seeking clarification whether the Dearness Relief is payable on original basic pension or on pension as reduced after commutation. It is

clarified that dearness relief is payable on the original basic pension before commutation or such basic pension before commutation as revised on implementation of recommendations of Pay Commission etc. and not on the pension as reduced after deduction of commuted pension.

**COMMUTATION:
NO RECOVERY FROM FP**

DOP&PW OM No. 42/15/2022-
P&PW(D)/5 dated 25-10-2022

In accordance with Rule 5 of CCS (Commutation of Pension) Rules, 1981, a Government servant can commute for a lump-sum payment of an amount not exceeding 40 per cent of his pension. Further, in accordance with Rule 10-A of CCS (Commutation of Pension) Rules, 1981 the commuted amount of the pension shall be restored on completion of fifteen years from the date of reduction of pension on account of commutation becomes operative in accordance with Rule 6.

2. References/representations have been received in this Department seeking clarification whether deduction towards commutation are required to be made from family pension for the remaining period in cases where the pensioner dies before the restoration of commuted pension.

3. It is clarified that in such cases monthly commuted amount of pension is not required to be deducted from family pension and family pension shall be paid in full without any deduction in this regard.

LIFE CERTIFICATE

DOP&PW OM No. 1(8)/2021-
P&PW(R)-7468 Dt. 30-9-2022

Every Central Government pensioner has to submit **Annual Life Certificate** in the month of November for further continuation of pension. It has been observed that a large number of Central Government pensioners physically visit bank branches for this purpose.

2. As a measure to enable an additional exclusive window to very senior pensioners, this Department, vide its OM No. 1/20/2018-P&PW(E) dated 18.07.2019, has allowed the pensioners in the age group of 80 years and above, to submit Annual Life Certificate from 1st October onwards, instead of 1st November onwards, every year.

3. The different modes available to a pensioner for submission of Annual Life Certificate are once again summarized for Pensioners' awareness. An Annual Life Certificate can be submitted manually or digitally as per convenience of the pensioner by following modes: -

i. Life certificate can be recorded by Pension Disbursing Authorities (PDAs), if the pensioner physically appears before the PDA.

ii. Personal appearance of a pensioner will not be required, if the pensioner submits the life certificate form signed by any 'designated official'. In accordance with para 14.3 of the Scheme Booklet issued by CPAO, a pensioner who produces a life certificate in the prescribed form, signed by persons specified, is exempted from personal appearance.

A list of designated officials specified for signing the Life Certificate as per the scheme booklet of CPAO is attached as **Annexure-I**.

iii. Pensioners can submit Life Certificate online through **Jeevan Pramaan Portal**. The process of submission of Digital Life Certificate through "Jeevan Pramaan" may be seen at <https://youtube/nNMkTYqTF8>. UIDAI has provided details of all biometric devices which are permissible for capturing biometrics of a person. Pensioners may visit the site www.uidai.Nov.in to get information of all such devices.

iv. **India Post Payments Bank (IPPB)** of Department of Posts along with Meity have successfully launched the initiative of the Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare: **"Doorstep Service for submission of Digital Life Certificate through Postman"** in November 2020. IPPB is utilizing its national network of more than 1,36,000 access points in Post Offices and more than 1,89,000 Postmen & Gramin Dak Sevaks with smart phones and biometric devices to provide Doorstep Banking Services for generation of Digital Life Certificates. For leveraging this facility through a mobile phone, a pensioner has to download **"Postinfo APP"** from Google Play store. The process of submission of Digital Life Certificate through Postmen/Gramin Dak Sevaks may be seen at <https://youtu.be/cERwM U7c54>

v. **Doorstep Banking** is also available through the **Alliance comprising 12 Public Sector Banks which do "Doorstep Banking"** for its customers in 100 major cities of the country under Ease of Banking reforms. PSB Alliance

has introduced the service for collection of Life Certificates under the umbrella of Doorstep Banking. DSB Agent shall visit the doorstep of Pensioner to render the service. Service can be booked by the pensioner through any of the 3 channels i.e. Mobile App, Website or Toll Free Number.

- Mobile App i.e. “**Doorstep Banking (DSB)**” can be downloaded from Google Playstore.

- Pensioners can access through Web Browser i.e. <https://doorstepbanks.com> & <https://dsb.imfast.co.in/doorstep/login>

- Through Toll free Number:- 18001213721, 18001037188.

vi. Pensioners can also submit Life Certificates using the **Face Authentication** technology system based on UIDAI Aadhaar software whereby it is possible to generate a Digital Life Certificate from any Android based smart phone by capturing the live photograph of the pensioner for online submission on the Jeevan Pramaan mobile application. The process flow for generating DLCs through Face Authentication is available on DoPPW's Pensioners' Portal (Jeevan Pramaan) Process flow of face authentication technique for DLC generation. (<https://pensionersportal.nov.in/Document/Face%20Authentication%20Process%20of%20Jeevan%20Praman%20App%20.pdf>)

4. All Pension Disbursing Authorities are requested to take note of this OM for compliance and give wide publicity of the same amongst pensioners. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

CGHS-ABHA LINKING

**Dept of Health & Family Welfare
OM No 44/67/MCTC/CGHS
dated 11-1-2023.**

With reference to the above mentioned subject and in alignment with its vision of being the first choice in providing quality healthcare services and ensuring holistic well-being across clients' entire life span, Central Government Health Scheme has found it imperative to adopt new technology and innovations in the delivery of quality healthcare.

In this regard, CGHS has already completed the process of onboarding on the 'Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission' (ABDM) Platform.

Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission has ushered India into a new era of technology enabled healthcare delivery. Ayushman Bharat Health Account number or popularly known as ABHA number, a component of Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission, is a randomly generated 14 digit number that will enable access to health records from registration to treatment and discharge in a paperless manner with multiple ABDM registered healthcare providers. Also, most importantly it is private and secure.

Ayushman Bharat Health Account (ABHA) Number for a patient/beneficiary is a hassle-free method of accessing and sharing his/her health records digitally. It enables the patient/beneficiary to interact with participating healthcare providers (including CGHS wellness centres), and allows him/her to receive digital

lab reports, prescriptions and diagnosis seamlessly from verified healthcare professionals and health service providers.

The other benefits of Ayushman Bharat Health Account (ABHA) Number for a patient/beneficiary include:

a. All medical reports are linked to ABHA and stored with the healthcare information provider (HIP)

b. The health records are being shared through a Health information exchange consent management system that ensures data is **not shared among healthcare information providers and users without the approval of the person to whom data is related.**

c. Safe and secure mechanism to share health records. The individual can decide the reports/ records to be shared and the time period for which such record is to be shared.

d. ABHA number helps in establishing a unique identity across different healthcare providers within the healthcare ecosystem.

e. It helps in linking all healthcare benefits ranging from public health programmes to insurance schemes to your unique ABHA number.

f. ABHA number also helps in avoiding long queues for registration in healthcare facilities across the country.

e. Seamless sign up for PHR (Personal Health Records) applications such as ABDM-ABHA

mobile application for Health data sharing.

How does an ABHA number work?
ABHA number is a 14 digit number that uniquely identifies a participant in India's digital healthcare ecosystem. ABHA number will establish a strong and trustable identity for the participant that shall be accepted by healthcare providers across the country.

ABHA (Ayushman Bharat Health Account) Address:

■ ABHA Address is a unique identifier (self declared username) that enables a user to share and access your health records digitally. The ABHA address may look like 'yourname@consent manager'. For instance, xyz@abdm is a ABHA address with ABDM Consent Manager that shall facilitate health data exchange **with appropriate consent** on the ABDM network.

■ ABHA address is a unique address or username being created by an individual and can be linked with the ABHA number. It is being created for easy remembrance and usage and is similar to any email ID.

■ ABHA address should not be confused with a residential address as it is only an electronic username being used in the application and at the facilities in place of the ABHA number.

■ A beneficiary can use his/her ABHA number to seamlessly sign up for a ABHA address, and ensure that the health records created, are shared only with him/her. To enable health data sharing, it is advised that a

beneficiary creates ABDM-ABHA address and link it with your ABHA number.

■ ABHA address can be generated through ABHA mobile application.

CGHS has already onboarded on the ABDM platform with majority of its Wellness Centres registered as 'Healthcare facilities' on ABDM platform. In the near future, a beneficiary having his/her Beneficiary ID linked with Aadhar based ABHA number can avail all the aforementioned facilities through the CGHS wellness centres as well.

Moreover, a beneficiary can participate at his/her own free will and choose to create his/her ABHA number voluntarily. Also, at any time, he/she can request for permanent deletion or temporary deactivation of the ABHA number.

Steps to Register for ABHA number and link with CGHS Beneficiary ID

To register for an ABHA number and link the same with the CGHS beneficiary ID, he/she needs to follow the below mentioned steps. If a beneficiary has already created his/her ABHA number, then it is advised to directly jump to point 13 below.

1. User should open browser, Enter URL: <https://cghs.nic.in>.
2. Hover mouse on menu 'Beneficiaries'
3. Click on 'Beneficiary Login'
4. Enter Beneficiary ID, Enter Password, Enter Captcha. In case password is not known, User can reset password by clicking on Generate /Reset Password.

5. Enter OTP sent on registered Mobile Number.

6. To link and create ABHA ID, hover mouse on Update Menu

7. Click on Create / Link ABHA ID

8. To create ABHA ID for family members, each family member would have to mapped, after main card holder logs in through "Beneficiary login".

9. Click on "I don't have ABHA Number"

10. Enter Aadhaar Number ,read and give the consent

11. Enter OTP sent on Mobile Number registered with Aadhaar Number and click on Verify OTP.

12. User can see Link Status. If Details get matched , then user can print ABHA Card by clicking on Print ABHA Card.

"WHEN USER ALREADY HAS ABHA NUMBER.

13. Enter ABHA Number in **LINK USING ABHA NUMBER** in **Consent Collection**.

User need to read the consent form and give their consent Click on Get OTP

14. Enter OTP sent on Mobile Number linked with AADHAAR Number. Click on Verify OTP

15. User can see Link Status. If Details get matched , then user can print ABHA Card by clicking on Print ABHA Card.

Facilities available through ABHA mobile application

In addition, a user can also download ABHA mobile application. The ABHA mobile application shall offer the following benefits to the beneficiary.

1. Creation of ABHA number under self-registration mode.

2. Creation of ABHA address and linking it with ABHA number.

3. Health records can be linked and fetched from HIPs.

4. Health records available in physical form can be uploaded and stored in ABHA app through different electronic lockers.

5. Search for facilities/doctors based on location or speciality.

[BSNL Pensioners are requested not to link their CGHS cards with ABHA immediately. The proposal is fraught with some disastrous consequences. Hence please study it properly or wait for some time. Let us watch further developments in this regard. ..Editor]

BSNL ORDERS

BSNLMRS: BILLS FROM RETIREES

BSNL CO No. CA/25/4/2021-CA-ERP-FICO dated 30-8-2022

This has reference to the above mentioned subject. In this connection, it is intimated that:

1. The Corporate CBB Section has allowed funds to the Circles for making payment of medical bills up to 31-3-2022 to retired employees. The Medical bills to working employees as well as CGHS reimbursement to retired employees are already been paid every month together with salary.

2. Going forward, the Circles should post the parked Medical bills of retired employees and deduct TDS, as applicable, and these will be disbursed along with the salary of working employees on monthly basis.

3. From September onwards, the Circles should regularly post/create the liability of Medical bills of retired employees in ERP-SAP through defined procedure and deposit the TDS deducted regularly.

4. Effective 1st September 2022, all retired employees vendor payments will be made by Corporate CSC i.e. House bank/Account Id of Corporate CSC Bank will get updated in liability documents. Therefore the Circles must ensure that Bank particulars of retired employee vendors are accurately captured in the system; credit to incorrect account shall be the responsibility of the circles. Once the payment is made, the Circle should ensure that no old bill/liability prior to 31-3-2022 should appear in the retired employee vendor account group.

BSNLMRS

BSNL CO Letter No. 16-4/2019/RB/Fund Auth/Misc/PI-I(P) dated 31-8-2022

It is to inform you that all pending liabilities under OPEX head received in CBB section as on 5th August 2022 have been cleared and fund authorization along with document wise details have already been shared with the circles.

In this regard, all CGMs/IFAs are requested that:

.... Payment to respective vendors be released immediately.

.... Deductions of all kinds of SLA penalties/LDS/Retention should be ensured.

.... Balanced fund, if any, be surrendered immediately.

.... After releasing all the payments the updated fund request incorporating all

MIRO documents pending for payments be included in fund request of 3rd September 2022 to be sent to BSNL CO along with annexure A w r t all heads of accounts (CAPEX and OPEX both) to have correct assessment of liability pending with BSNL.

.... Budgetary requirement, if any, to clear the pendency be intimated to CBB section immediately.

.... For any pending liability not included in fund request and remain unpaid the responsibility have to be fixed by circle Heads/IFAs.

.... Capex fund pending request with CBB as on 10th August 2022 are going to be released shortly. The Circle must be ready with all payable documents ensuring that all kinds of LD/Penalties/recoveries from vendors have been effected. The Capex liabilities not sent to CBB as on date be included in September 2022 Capex demand along with certificate attached as annexure A. This may be treated as MOST URGENT.

BSNLMRS

BSNL CO Letter No. 16-4/2019/RB/Fund Auth/Misc/PI-I (P) dated 7-10-2022 to all CGMs. IFAs

Ref. CO letters dated 30-8-2022 and 31-8-2022. With reference to the letters above it is intimated that:

1. Funds of Rs 361 Cr have been authorized to Circles for clearing all pending medical liabilities (Indoor/Outdoor/Medical Allowance) up to 31-3-2022 to retired employees in the month of August 2022. However, till date, liabilities of Rs 262 Cr have only been cleared in SAP. The Circle wise details is enclosed herewith.

2. Funds to the tune of Rs 100 Cr are still lying unutilized with Circles. In this connection, Circles are requested to submit the detailed report and intimate the reasons for non clearance of liabilities relating to Retirees Medical.

3. Budget restraints, if any, in clearing the aforesaid liabilities for which funds have already been authorized, the Circles are required to place budget request in the prescribed Performa alongwith the justification of CBB section.

4. Circles are requested to clear all the pending liabilities for which funds have been authorized latest by 15th Oct 2022 positively.

5. Further, instructions issued by CA section vide its letter dated 30-8-2022 on the above subject should strictly be followed. The Circles should post/ create the liability of medical bills of retired employees in ERP-SAP on regular basis. In this regard, if any Budget is required, the Circles are requested to place budget request separately in the prescribed Performa along with the justification to CBB section.

6. Circles should ensure that no old liability prior to 31-3-2022 should appear in the retired employee vendor account groups.

This may be treated as MOST URGENT.

BSNLMRS for RETIREES

BSNL CO No. CA/11/9/2021-CA-ERP-FICO dated 4-1-2023

This has reference to the numerous letters this office has written on the

above cited subject. This office is still receiving complaints from various Associations/retired employees regarding nonpayment of Medical despite lapse of considerable time. It is to be noted that the CBB Section had provided sufficient funds based on the data furnished by Circles to clear all the retired employees medical liability till 31-03-2022; hence the Circles should analyze and find out the reasons for nonpayment.

This office has extracted the data from SAP for account group 004 (Retired employee vendors) and the total amount payable (including medical) to retired employees (Payment Block removed) as on 03-01-2023 is Rs 147.23 Crores out of which Rs 131.62 Crores pertains to year 2022-23. (Circle wise and age wise details are annexed).

It has also been noticed that wrong GL shaved been used for creating liability like water charges GL have been used for creating liability for payment of CGHS reimbursement and TRC settlement account is for payment of withheld gratuity. The list of offsetting GLs used for creating liability is also annexed to this letter. Circles are directed to take necessary action to rectify the same.

The Circles should also ensure that proper bank particulars as well as mobile number/email id are updated in retired employee vendor.

After necessary correction/ updation, the fund requirement

as well as detailed list may be provided to CBB Section for onward submission to Central CSC for payment.

WEB PORTAL FOR PENSIONERS

**BSNLCO-ADMN/MRS/Web Portal/
Ret. Emp./2021-22n dated
26.12.2022 To all CGMs**

In view of several representations and issues raised during processing and tracking of the claims of retired employees, BSNL Management has decided to implement a web-based solution for the retired employees to submit and track latest Status of their claims. Kerala Circle has developed a web portal for providing various online services to retired employees and same has been working for few Circles. Now, this service is to be implemented on pan-India level by ITPC Circle.

2. Therefore, all Circles are hereby requested to nominate a Circle Nodal Officer (SPOC) and communicate the name, designation, email id and mobile number of nominated Circle Nodal Officer to ITPC, Development Unit, Hyderabad on email id. pernsionersp@bsnl.co.in. For further coordination and training on the BSNL Retired Employees Portal, Shri T.jagajeevanram, SDE(Dev), ITPC Hyderabad, Mob:91- 9868108117 \ eMail: pernsionersp@bsnl.co.in. <https://pensioners.bsnl.co.in/portal/>.

Portal related documents may be accessed at below-mentioned Google drive link - <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/S/folders/1f9u6VGLQKGUHI0tmaKy2tO5J17KGUpt>

KNOW YOUR PENSIONER

**CGCA No. No. 13-57/2020-21/
BA&IT/L /2499-02528 dated 22-
12-2022 To all CCAs**

It is to convey that currently migration of Telecom pensioners drawing pension via Banks is underway since July, 2022. Around 1.5 lakh pensioners have already been migrated on to SAMPANN. Further, several representations/grievances have been received from pensioners wherein pensioners requested to correct their data on to SAMPANN.

Since, data of migrated pensioners are either not updated or partially update on to SAMPANN. In view of above, it has been decided to provide a KYP (Know Your Pensioner) Form (copy enclosed) to all the CCA units for circulation to pensioners.

Further, all CCA units are requested to:

1. The KYP in English may be converted to Bi-lingual format i.e, on one side English and the predominant official language of the state/circle on the other side.

2. KYP forms may be widely distributed through Pension Adalat, Pension Camps, Pensioners' Association, website, social media, conventional media, post etc.

3. KYP forms may also be obtained from pensioners visiting office for LC, grievance redressal etc.

4. Forms may also be circulated using the BSNL offices and other networks.

5. An SMS may be sent to pensioners with details of web address for downloading the KYP form.

And pensioners may be requested to inform their peers and acquaintances about KYP form through SMS/whatsapp groups.

6. A newspaper advertisement and electronic (TV) news media scroll in the most prominent newspapers/ channel of the state.

7. Additionally, for the ease of pensioners, CCA offices may organize special camps also for collecting KYP information at selected locations so that maximum Humber of pensioners can be outreached and benefited.

On receipt of the filled KYP from the pensioner, the data may be updated in SAMPANN using relevant utilities.

User manuals related to above said utilities are also enclosed with. Same may be followed for effecting necessary revision or correction in SAMPANN. In case of any clarification required, SAMPANN

Helpdesk may be contacted on support email id: support.cpms-dot@nic.in .

In case of pensioners currently not on SAMPANN, the KYP forms may be taken on record in an orderly manner and the details may be utilized for preparation of 78 column data for migration as and when the case arises for migration.

The Non-Pay related fields of Aadhar, PAN, Address and Designation corrections which are currently carried out centrally would be provided at the FRONT end, at the earliest.

This exercise needs to be carried out in a mission mode and the data of all pensioners migrated till the month of December needs to be updated accurately by 31st January 2023. A weekly progress report on each Monday starting with 26th December, 2022 may be sent to CPMS help desk in the format attached.

This exercise needs to be continued till the migration of pensioners is complete and the requisite details of all pensioners are updated in SAMPANN.

Further, awareness sessions for the users in CCA Offices will be conducted by SAMPANN Team in due course.

This issues with approval of the Competent Authority.

MIGRATION TO SAMPANN

DoT CGCA No 13-5/2020-21/
BA&IT dt. 22-7-2022 to all CCAs

Sub: Bank Migration: Post Migration Activities:

Migration of pensioners from CPPCs to SAMPANN is currently underway and being taken up in a phased manner. In the month of July 2022, 4443 pensioners drawing pension from Bank of Baroda are being migrated and their pension has been stopped by the bank.

To ensure a smooth transition of pensioners drawing pension from CPPCs to SAMPANN following steps need to be taken.

1. **Welcoming Pensioners:** Immediately after migration, migrated pensioners must be welcomed to SAMPANN either via SMS/Call/Letter. The communication must contain the SAMPANN PPO No. and mobile number (first five digits). It must be noted that SAMPANN PPO No. and Mobile Number are mandatory requirements for creation of login credentials. Therefore, pensioners whose mobile number is incorrect/not available may be requested to provide them at the earliest for updation in SAMPANN.

3. **Submission of LC/DLC:**

a. Since pensioners would now get their pension from CCA Offices, life Certificate would now need to be submitted to the respective CCA Office.

b. **Physical LC:** The physical LC would need to be submitted to the

CCA Office. The address of the office may be shared with the pensioners.

c. **Digital LC:** Pensioners need to be assisted with the process of submission of LC on Jeevan Pramaan. The manual (Enclosed) and the video in this regard may be shared with the pensioners/Pensioners' Associations.

4. **Savings and investment Declaration:** After migration, pensioners would need to submit their Savings and Investment Declarations To CCA Offices. The process of submitting online may be explained to the pensioners.

5. **Transfer of Pension Case:** A pensioner may want to transfer the case from one circle to another after migration. Such pensioners may be assisted. The video detailing the process of transfer by pensioners may be shared with all pensioners/Pensioners' Associations.

CCA Offices may take up outreach initiatives in the form of online or offline camps reaching out to Pensioners Associations etc. for the benefit of pensioners and inform about the same to this office.

SUBMISSION OF LC BY SAMPANN PENSIONERS

CGCA No. 13-50/2020-21/BA&IT/
2516-2546 dated 30-11-2022

It is to convey that migration of pensioners from CPPCs to SAMPANN is currently underway and being taken up in a phased manner. As on date more than one lakh

Telecom pensioners drawing pension from CPPCs (Banks) have been migrated and their pension is being paid via SAMPANN.

For uninterrupted pension payment of migrated pensioners, such pensioners need to submit their LC/DLC to concerned CCA offices. In this regard, certain guidelines have been issued from time to time. To streamline the process of submission of LC/DLC by migrated pensioners, the following guidelines are being issued which may be followed by all Pr.CCA/CCA/Jt.CCA offices.

1. **Extended time for submission of LC/DLC for Migrated Pensioners:**

In modification of the letter No. 13-40/2020-231/BA&IT dated 27-07-2022 (Enclosure I) issued regarding extension of timeline for submission of LC/DLC by pensioners, all migrated pensioners are being given a relaxation of 6 months from the month of migration within which they would need to submit their LC/DLC. For example, for pensioners migrated in July 2022, pension would be paid uninterrupted till December 2022. The pensioners would need to submit his/her LC/DLC by 31st January 2023 for continuation of pension. Similarly, for a pensioner migrated in November 2022 pension would be paid uninterrupted till April 2023. The pensioner would need to submit his/her LC/DLC by 31st May 2023 for continuation of pension.

All Pr CCA/CCA/Jt.CCA offices are requested to inform the migrated pensioners regarding this by way of SMS/Call/Letters in order to avoid any confusion/crowding at offices.

RECOMMENDATIONS & ACTION TAKEN

The Parliamentary Committee on Department of Pension and Pensioners Welfare had submitted some recommendations in its 110th report (*Published in 2022 September-October issue of this journal. We had pointed out that they were only recommendations and the Finance Ministry had not accepted the same.*) On 8th December 2022 the Government placed a report in Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha conveying Action Taken on the recommendations. Some extracts:

1. Health care for central Govt pensioners residing in non-CGHS areas: Committee suggested extension of Central Government Medical Attendance rules to Pensioners.

Action Taken: Those pensioners who are residing in non-CGHS area and do not choose to avail CGHS facility by paying the required CGHS contributions are entitled to receive monthly Fixed Medical Allowance. At present the amount of FMA is Rs 1000 per month. DoP&PW has separately mooted a proposal for increasing the amount.

Thus, the pensioners have the option to avail CGHS facility while residing in a non-CGHS area. Since serving Govt servants residing in non-CGHS areas do not have the option to avail CGHS facility, they are covered by CS (MA) Rules.

2. Enhancement of FMA: Rs 1000 to Rs 3000:

Action Taken: The DoP&PW will take up the issue of enhancement of fixed medical allowance with the Finance Ministry.

3. Opening of CGHS Wellness Centres at district Headquarters:

Action Taken: The Government may explore opening of CGHS centres at district locations for treatment of CGHS beneficiaries.

4. Additional Pension: 5% on attaining age of 65 years, 10% on 70 years and 15% on 75 years:

Action Taken: Not accepted. The proposal, if accepted is also likely to have cascading effect on the State Finances since similar demand will arise from the retired State Govt. employees. Therefore, from fiscal perspective, such proposal may not be desirable.

5. Facility to withdraw pension by seniors of 70 years and above with physical infirmities:

Action Taken: DoP&PW will take up the matter with RBI and M/o Finance.

6. Notional Increment to pensioners retired on 30th June, grant of MACP from January 2006:

Action Taken: Not agreed. Honb'le High Court of Andhra its judgement in the case of C Subbarao in the year 2005 (WP No 22042 of 2003) had also observed that "as per Rule 14 of the Pension Rules, a person who retires on the last working day would not be entitled for any increment falling due on the next day and payable next day thereafter, because he would not answer the tests in these Rules."

7. Family pension to physically disabled children: simplification of rules:

Action Taken: DoP&PW will instruct the ministries/departments of the central Govt to be proactive, reach out to the family pensioners and also assist them in claiming family pension. Obtaining medical certificate/disability certificate by children of a deceased government servant has been simplified. One can obtain disability certificate from:

- i) An authority competent to issue disability certificate in accordance with the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016 and 2017 and the guidelines and notifications issued by the Central/ State Govt. or UT administration.
- ii) A Medical Board comprising of a Medical Superintendent or a Principal or a Director or Head of the Institution or his nominee as Chairman and two other members, out of which at least one shall be a Specialist in the particular area of disability including medical retardation.



MANY PREACH WHILE FEW PRACTICE.

In the first week of January, 2023 media reported as:

" Senior judges and lawyers at the Supreme Court were in for a surprise this morning as Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud reached the court along with his two foster daughters and gave them a tour of the courtroom and his chamber. After reaching the court premises at 10 am, Justice Chandrachud entered the courtroom along with his daughters, who have disabilities, from the public gallery. He then took both of them to the CJI Court in Room No. 1 and showed them how the court functions. The Chief Justice showed his daughters - Mahi (16) and Priyanka (20) - where the judges sit and from where the lawyers argue.

Later, Justice Chandrachud took his daughters to his chamber to give them a tour of his office. According to sources, Justice Chandrachud decided to take them to the court after his daughters expressed a desire to see the Supreme Court....."

Both his angelic daughters are not only medically impaired but are adopted. While adoption itself requires a large heart, fostering kids with cerebral palsy and/or autism is stupendous. The Chandrachud couple has two sons, well-educated and well-placed.

SON ADOPTED BY WIDOW NOT ELIGIBLE

The Supreme Court of India delivered a judgment on 17th January 2023 stating that ***"The son, adopted by the widow of a pensioner, after the death of the Pensioner, is not eligible to get Family pension"***. The boy was not dependent on the pensioner when he was alive. If the wife of the pensioner was pregnant at the time of his death and she delivered a son after his death, the child is part of the family and hence eligible to get family pension... The Court observed.

THE DEAD-LOCK

We reproduce below the copy of joint letter written by General Secretaries of BSNLEU and NFTE-BSNL on 13-1-2023 to CMD, BSNL.

With reference to the letter cited above, we would like to bring the following to your kind notice, for favour of your kind intervention.

Vide letter cited under reference, the DoT had directed the BSNL Management to take steps to finalise the Wage settlement of the Non-Executives and send it for the approval of the Department (DoT). It is already four and half years since the direction was given by the DoT and still it has not been complied with by the BSNL Management.

The Wage Revision talks started between the BSNL Management and the Recognised Unions on 20.07.2018. However, the talks got stuck now and then, for which the Recognised Unions cannot be held responsible.

Based on the recent letter issued by the DoT, directing the BSNL Management to send the revised pay scales of the Non-Executives, Wage Negotiation between the BSNL Management and the Recognised Unions once again resumed on 10.06.2022. Two meetings of the Wage Negotiating Committee have taken place, i.e., on 28.11.2022 and 02.12.2022. However, much progress did not take place in these meetings, because of the stiff and unreasonable stand taken by the Management Side, which are given below:-

1) The new pay scales of the Non-Executives

already finalised in the Wage Negotiating Committee meeting held on 27.07.2018, through consensus between the Management Side and the Recognised Unions, cannot be accepted, since it will result in heavy expenditure to BSNL, on account of payment of pension contribution.

2) Wage Revision agreement cannot be signed now. Only the revised pay scales of the Non- Executives should be finalised and sent to the DoT, for the purpose of Pension Revision.

3) Revision of Allowances for the Non-Executives cannot be done now. As such, no discussion can take place on the issue of Revision of Allowances.

We are saddened to bring to your kind notice that, the Wage Revision talks have reached a deadlock due to the aforementioned unreasonable stand of the Management Side, which will severely affect the interests of the Non-Executives. As regards the aforementioned stand of the Management, we would like to express our views as follows:-

a) The pay scales already agreed to in the Wage Negotiating Committee meeting held on 27.07.2018, through consensus between the Management Side and the Recognised Unions, should be accepted by the Management. The attempt of the Management Side, to cut down both the minimum and maximum of the already

finalised pay scales of the Non-Executives, is unacceptable to us. The argument of the Management Side that, the already accepted pay scales of the Non-Executives, will result in heavy expenditure to the Company, on account of pension contribution, also cannot be accepted. In the case of the Executives, the pay scales already decided by the 3rd PRC, cannot be modified by the BSNL Management. As such, the attempt of the Management Side to reduce the minimum and maximum of the already finalised pay scales of the Non-Executives, is not acceptable to us.

b) The stand of the Management Side that, the Wage Revision agreement cannot be signed now and that, only the pay scales could be finalised, is nothing but a blatant violation of the direction of the DoT given to the BSNL Management, vide letter cited

under reference. The Non- Executives are eagerly awaiting for the wage revision and hence the Management Side should not delay the signing of the Wage Revision agreement.

c) The stand of the Management that, revision of allowances would not be done now, is very disappointing. In the last Wage Revision implemented w.e.f. 01.01.2007 also, revision of allowances was not done. In fact, BSNL employees have been denied revision of allowances since the formation of BSNL. Hence, we demand that the BSNL Management should accept revision of allowances also.

In view of the foregoing, we request you to kindly make your kind intervention on this matter and to ensure that the Wage agreement is signed without further delay.

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.

2-3-2023

Sd/-
(G. Natarajan)

RATE OF IDA FROM 2017

The rate of IDA for employees and pensioners in BSNL, where last wage revision took place from 2007 (2nd PRC), is given below. In some central PSEs wage revision has taken place from 2017 based on 3rd PRC report. Rate of IDA in such PSEs also is given.

YEAR	QUARTER	BSNL /2nd PRC	PSUs / 3rd PRC
2017	January- March	119.5	0
	April - June	117.1	-1.1
	July - September	119	-0.2
	October - December	124.3	2.2
2018	January- March	126.9	3.4
	April - June	127.2	3.5
	July - September	128	3.8
	October - December	135.6	7.3
2019	January- March	138.8	8.8
	April - June	141.4	10
	July - September	146.7	12.4
	October - December	152	14.8
2020	January- March	157.3	17.2
	April - June	160.7	18.7
	July - September	159.9	18.4
	October - December	159.9	18.4
2021	January- March	159.9	18.4
	April - June	159.9	18.4
	July - September	173.8	24.7
	October - December	179.3	27.2
2022	January- March	184.1	29.4
	April - June	185.3	30
	July - September	190.8	32.5
	October - December	195.8	34.8
2023	January- March	201.2	37.2



VISAKHAPATNAM AIC A LION VIEW

The Government had struck down our long pending demand of delinking our pension from PRC of BSNL and draw our pension at par with Central Govt. Pensioners. To achieve this goal, the Andhra comrades brought the matter to the parliament through their MPs and Karnataka Comrades influenced the Communication Minister through the Parliamentary Affairs Minister, Leaders of organisation met various Authorities and dried their vocal cord while detailing them and substantiating our demands with various supportive orders. Every Authority, whom our Leaders approached, appears to be got convinced and responded in a positive way that our demands are justified. Yet, bolt out of blue, in one stroke the Government demolished our dream of ambition. As our leader rightly phrased the word in the Annual Report, '*Diabolic game and negative brains*' worked against us. There is a popular saying that "there appears a shadow between thinking and inking is called politics".

Of course, even after knowing the Government orders, spirit was not died or evaporated. The scheduled All India Conference of the above Union was held at Large-spacious Subbulakshmi Kalyanamantapam

Vishakhapatnam on 2nd & 3rd December 2022. The conference brimmed with more than 1500 Delegates and it was historic mammoth gathering and also, it was unique in its own way. This is the tangible evidence that our Membership is reposing their faith in the Leadership who are not sanctimonious. When the defeat comes, they accept it as a signal that their Plans are not sound, and they rebuild those Plans, and set sail once more towards their coveted goal. They have already circulated the future course of action. If they succeed, it is their Victory and the benefits are ours.

SUPER SPECIALITY

It is an established fact that the Association is meant for Retired Pensioners which is self explanatory that the membership are aged or super aged and their least age is not below 60 years of age. In other words, all are Senior and super senior Citizens. Such being the case, the spirit of our Andhra Comrades were not less than any youths. They methodically planned, systematically organised and meticulously executed planned arrangements of the Conference. They have not committed an iota of mistake while conducting the conference.

■ In every alighting point, Volunteers were deployed to receive & ferry the Delegates who have

come from All over the Country to the Conference Hall.

■ All the 1500 Delegates were provided Lodging facility for comfortable stay. ■ Seating arrangements on the dais was done with the name board according to protocol. ■ Sufficient Chairs were made available at both the places of Auditorium as well as in the Dining hall; ■ Closed circuit TV as well as Sound systems was provided to those seated far off the Dais. ■ Large & Spacious pandal was erected for the dining hall to have the food peacefully. ■ More than 6 food counters were made available to avoid crowd.

MENU

Idly, Sambar, Chatney, parpu, Tomato chatney, Kesary Bath, Kara Bath, Chapati, Kulcha, Bread & Jam, Bisibele Bath, Lemon Rice, Vegetable Bath, White Rice, Curry, Rasam, Curd, Ice-Cream Banana, Orange, Mineral Water, Coffee, Tea and what not....

We will be utterly failed if we did not recognise invaluable service given by the Reception Committee to the Association in general and for Delegates in particular. There was thunderous applause when this was mentioned by the Galaxy of Leaders. Hats Off to the Reception Committee and thanks a Ton to all Comrades.

**Javarappa S (9448059898)
Delegate, Bangalore.**

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Sh. Lalji Mahendra

Sh. Ravindra Kumar

Sh. Jiut Prasad

Sh. Nizamuddin

Sh. Ram Sewak Ram

LEADERS OF THE MOVEMENT

Office-Bearers of District Units elected recently

<u>SSA</u>	<u>President</u>	<u>Secretary</u>	<u>Treasurer</u>
AP Adilabad	K Saibaba	K Narender	N Ganganna
AP East Godavari	N Venkita Rao	K Bhaskara Rao	A V Bappiraju
AP Srikakulam	D Venkiteswara Rao	K S Prasada Rao	W Manmadha Rao
DI C O	R L Kapoor	Narinder Rohilla	R L Dhar
DI NTR	Harshpati	Satinder Kumar	Rajiv Sharma
DI Traffic	K G Sharma	M S Arya	M K Malik
HR Ambala	Ramesh Ahluwalia	Ashok Kumar	Rajinder Kumar
HR Jind	Baljit Singh	V P Kaushik	Vinod Kumar
HR Karnal	Trilok Chand	Balkirshan Panwar	Hansraj
HR Rewari	Shriram	Sudarsan Kr Madan	Shyam Jeet
KT Bangalore	K Ranganayukulu	R Janardhana Rao	Deepak
KT Bidar	K Shivaraj	Postar Tippanna	A P Shendre
KT Davangere	Hanumanthappa Bajari	R Anand	Nandagopal
KT Gulbarga	Kale Basanna	Abdul Khaleed	Shivaji G Chawhan
KT Karwar	M G Naik	Vasudev N Naik	Shinu N N aik
KT Kolar	Syed Mohideen	E Subramani	P Channakesavaiah
KT Mangalore	H Ramakrishna	K Chandramohan	U Seetharama Bhat
KT Raichur	D Siddappa	Syed Akbar Hussani	Mohd Younus
MH Akola	J N Dhole	V M Bandi	H B Deshmukh
MP Shivpuri	Hari Om Tiwari	Suresh Singh Yadav	J K Savita
OR Cuttack	Ramesh Mohanty	Sricharan Mohanty	P C Das
RJ Sriganganagar	Mansingh Rakesh	Rmalakhan Maurya	Jagmohan Pd Gupta
TN Thanjavur	Chandrakumari	K Ayyanar	K Seenu
UPE Janpad Gonda	S B Singh	Nizamuddin	Ramsundar Singh

District Secretaries, please note:

We wish to publish, in our Website, the contact numbers of District Secretaries. The data with us is old. Hence, all District Secretaries are requested to intimate me Name of Circle, Name of SSA, Name of DS and Mobile Number. It can be sent as a whatsapp message.

V Varaprasad, GS 9440000482

PROTEST: WIDESPREAD, EXPLICIT & EMPHATIC



Dehradun



Gwalior



Jaipur



Salem



Meerut



Lucknow



Bhubaneswar



Ferozpur



Rajahmundry



Visakhapatnam

PENSIONERS PATRIKA

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THE ANGER

