

PENSIONERS' PATRIKA

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AIBSNLPWA ON ACTION

**LEADERS MET THE FINANCE MINISTER AND
SENIOR OFFICERS AND TOOK UP THE ISSUE OF
PENSION REVISION THROUGH PAY COMMISSION**



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Editorial

WITHDRAW THE AMENDMENT

The Government announced its intention to set up 8th Central Pay Commission and took its advantage in elections to Delhi Legislative Assembly. This political game is not uncommon. Few days after, a deceptive move is made to amend the time tested Pension Rules of central government employees, with cascading effect on pension of crores of other pensioners. The word "Validation" is used as title for the game; in the text it is said that CCS (Pension) Rule is amended that too with effect from 1-6-1972, half a century ago. Honourable Minister and the honourable Secretary tell that Pension rules are not changed; that the government policy of No-discrimination will continue. For continuity of the policy why the rules be amended? Secretary convenes a virtual meeting to say that amendment was required to face some court cases pertaining to anomalies occurred from 1-1-2006. If that is the reason why the rule should be amended with effect from 1972? Honourable Minister reassures that policy of No-discrimination shall continue. Same time, the rule is amended to empower the government with a dangerous device to discriminate pensioners based on their date of retirement.

Pensioners cannot be confused or misled. Fifth CPC brought parity between old pensioners and new pensioners. Sixth CPC introduced Grade Pay for pay revision and suggested 40% increase for pensioners. That, of course, brought an element of discrimination amongst pensioners. When government denied justice, some pensioners approached Courts of Law. The CAT, the High Court and even the Apex Court gave orders in their favour. Now, to defeat the pensioners who sought justice legally, the Government, one of the disputants, unilaterally changes the rule of the game. If the policy of 'No discrimination' continues then the government should resolve the anomaly amicably instead of reinforcing its armory to discriminate pensioners. The nefarious move negates the parity brought in by fifth CPC. If 'No-discrimination' policy restored by 7th CPC from 2016 continues there is no need to amend rules. The arguments put forth by the Government are not at all convincing. Government wants to punish those who sought legal remedy. For that Government punishes the entire pensioners' community in India. In a recent landmark judgement the Supreme Court has defined the contours of the powers of the President of India under Article 201 of the Constitution. That being the situation, the surreptitious amendment to CCS (Pension) Rule deserves strong condemnation.

Pensioners with family members, numbering about 20 crore, constitute a sizeable segment of voters, to be reckoned with. Only the pensioners should realize their own strength. Else a Jambavan is needed to remind them of their strength and power.



GS Writes

FIGHT OUT THE ATTACK

Namaste Comrades,

The entire pensioners' community in India is facing a fierce attack from the rulers, unprecedented and undemocratic. During the last many decades the government employees faced gross injustice, no matter which party was in power. The insensitive top bureaucrats treated lower level staff as 'servants' a term used by British rulers to address Indian staff. The attitude is not changed.

The government faced debacle after debacle in legal fights when the hapless pensioners approached Courts of laws for justice, thanks to the intransigent and incompetent bureaucracy. For such failures of the incompetent governance the Government is punishing all pensioners who devoted their youth and energetic life for three or four decades in the service of the nation.

Indian Parliamentarians, the Lawmakers, themselves hike their pay, pension and perks every five years. Since 1986, government staff was getting pay/pension revision once in ten years. BSNL/MTNL pensioners are waiting for 18 long years for pension revision even though they won the legal battle. The present government wants to deny that pittance too through an

amendment moved covertly and surreptitiously under the garb of Finance Bill and the lawmakers approved it. There are certain procedures to move such amendments to rules. All such procedures are ignored in the instant case. Instead of the concerned minister, the powerful finance minister herself has taken the cudgels to hit the pensioners below their belt. With an amendment the Government has nullified number of judicial pronouncements made by eminent jurists of India during the last five decades, including the landmark judgement from the Constitution Bench of Supreme Court in D S Nakara v. GOI case in 1982. It is a blatant brutal attack on our constitution and our judiciary. Bureaucrats used to keep Files concerning lakhs of people for years. But, in the instant case, a Gazette notification is issued within just four days. A correct action needs time but a crime needs no time. Succeeding pages of this journal carry many materials on the issue and hence I refrain from repetition.

There was instant emphatic protest on 3rd April 2025 all over India against this brutal attack. The resistance shall continue. Our CHQ calls upon our members and branches all over India to join any collective move of pensioners and employees to defeat the heinous attack on our livelihood. Our future is in danger. We have to protect

ourselves. It is not a time to take rest. Eternal vigilance is the need of the hour. We must bury all differences, organizational or political, and join together to fight back.

In the Contempt of Court Case filed by the All India S-30 Pensioners Association, (C) No 43/2025, Secretary of DoP&PW himself appeared before Delhi High Court on-line on 8th April 2025 to inform the Court that in accordance with the amended CCS Pension Rule, Government has the authority to divide the pensioners based on date of their retirement and deny justice to one section. The Single bench of Delhi High Court raised a doubt about constitutionality of the amendment passed by Lok Sabha in a matter before Judiciary and that had reached finality. Single Bench referred the matter to a Double Bench. Finally, Supreme Court of India may step in. The amendment made to CCS Pension rule is subject to judicial scrutiny.

PENSION REVISION CASE

We won the case in Principal Bench of CAT. The then Minister Sri. Ashwini Vaishnav assured us that Government would not appeal against it. Same time, the CAT order was not honoured. So we filed a Contempt of Court petition before PB, CAT. Then DoT approached Delhi High Court with an Appeal petition in January 2024 and prayed for squashing Contempt Case. High Court

rejected the said prayer. The case was adjourned 16 times in 15 months. During the period, the CAT itself closed the Contempt Case as the Appeal was admitted in High Court. In the meantime the Benches were changed several times. The case came up for hearing before four Benches, in turn, consisting of eight Judges. Finally the Appeal Petition was listed for 2.30 PM on 22-4-2025. The new Division Bench consisting of Justice Mr. Navin Chawla and Justice Ms. Renu Bhatnagar simply adjourned the case to 26th May 2025 without taking it up on 22nd April 2025.

NOTIONAL INCREMENT CASES

Directorate has permitted CCAs to implement the general order issued by DoP&PW in the cases of BSNL retirees. On 24-3-2025, our Karnataka Circle leaders met officers in Circle Office and requested follow up action. On the same day itself, CGMT Office, Karnataka sent a letter to all BAs/SSAs to compile the data of all beneficiaries and forward the same to CCA, Bangalore. A format also was supplied. The CCA, Kerala has circulated a proforma to all the SSAs and asked them to process cases and forward to CCA office.

CGHS TO DISAPPEAR?

A document was in circulation in third week of April 2025 saying that CGHS will be replaced by Central Govt Employees and Pensioners Health Insurance Scheme

(CGEPHIS). It is not a new one. Back in 2016 the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare had circulated the same.

INEFFICIENT BSNL

According to a News appeared on 2.4.2025, the government suffered a loss of Rs 1757.56 crore as BSNL failed to bill Reliance Jio for using its passive infrastructure for a decade, according to the Comptroller and Auditor General of India. In its audit report released on 1-4-2025, CAG highlighted that BSNL did not enforce the Master Service Agreement with Reliance Jio Infocomm since May 2014. This lapse in billing for additional technology usage resulted in a substantial revenue loss to the government between May 2014 and March 2024. BSNL incurred a loss of Rs 38.36 crore by failing to deduct the licence fee from revenue share payments made to Telecom Infrastructure Providers, the report stated. CAG also pointed out short billing of infrastructure-sharing charges. "Non-adherence to the terms and conditions laid down in the MSA with RJIL by BSNL and non-application of the escalation clause resulted in a loss of revenue of Rs 29 crore.

NONE SUITABLE

According to another news on 28th March 2025, the Public Enterprises Selection Board has not recommended any one of the 12 senior officers of DoT/BSNL interviewed by it for appointment

as CMD BSNL. The PESB has asked the DoT to decide a future course of action for the selection. Current BSNL CMD, Sh. Robert Jerard Ravi, is expected to continue in his position. Sh. Ravi, DDG in the telecom department, was initially given the additional charge as CMD of BSNL and MTNL in July 2024, following the rejection of his predecessor PK Purwar's extension. In January 2025, Sh. Ravi's tenure at the position was extended for three more months, until April 14.

ORGANIZATIONAL

Circle Conferences

Circle Conferences are to be held once in three years. Most of our circle conferences were due in 2025. Some of them have already been held. CHQ calls upon all Circle Secretaries to hold their Circle Conferences before AIC if it is due in 2025.

Delegates to the AIC

CHQ has circulated details of membership of all the District Units based on quota received by CHQ up to 31-3-2025. The delegates to next All India Conference shall be restricted and admitted based on the said calculation. The Reception Committee to Kochi AIC shall arrange accommodation to the Delegates only. All may please take note of it.

V Vara Prasad
General Secretary

22-4-2025

CCS (PENSION) RULE AMENDED

with retrospective effect by 53 years

Government of India Press Release

Posted by Press Information Bureau

on 26 MARCH 2025 at 3:10PM

The legislation regarding Validation of the CCS (Pension) Rules and Principles for expenditure on Pension liabilities from the Consolidated Fund of India was passed in Lok Sabha on 25.03.2025 as part of the Finance Bill, 2025.

The validation legislation validates the principle that without prejudice to the Pension Rules, the Central Government has the authority to establish distinctions among pensioners as a general principle and that a distinction may be made or maintained amongst the Pensioners, which may emanate from the accepted recommendations of the Central Pay Commissions, and in particular the distinction may be made on the basis of the date of retirement. The legislation has been made effective from 1.6.1972 thereby validating all Rules made under Article 309 of the Constitution for CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972, CCS (Pension) Rules, 2021, CCS (Extraordinary Pension) Rules, 2023 including all instructions issued thereunder as amended from time to time.

Why above amendment takes effect from 1.6.1972 ?

The CCS (Pension) Rule 1972 came into effect from 1.6.1972. It was amended several times during the last 53 years. The Supreme Court and High Courts pronounced several judgements based on the above Rule. Now, with one stroke Government has empowered itself to change rule of the game..

A BLATANT BETRAYAL OF RETIREES' RIGHTS

Press Statement by GS, AIBSNLPWA on 27-3-2025

All India BSNL Pensioners Association strongly condemns the government's proposed amendment to the Pension Rules, which seeks to override Supreme Court rulings and deny rightful benefits to pensioners. This amendment is not just a bureaucratic change—it is an outright assault on the dignity and financial security of millions of retirees who have served the nation with dedication.

The Supreme Court, in landmark judgments such as *D.S. Nakara v. Union of India*, has upheld that pension is not a government charity but a vested right of retirees, and that differentiating pensioners solely on the basis of retirement date is unconstitutional. Instead of respecting these rulings, the government is now manipulating the law to suit its convenience, bypassing judicial scrutiny, and institutionalizing discrimination against past pensioners.

Exposing the Government's Real Intentions
Deliberate Exclusion of Past Pensioners: The amendment ensures that future Pay Commission benefits apply only to new retirees, robbing existing pensioners of fair revisions. This is an open violation of equality and natural justice.

Financial Austerity at the Cost of the Elderly: The government is prioritizing budget control over retirees' livelihoods, refusing to honour pension commitments despite collecting lifelong service from employees. If there is money for corporate bailouts and political extravagance, why deny justice to pensioners?

Suppressing Judicial Directives: This is a validation law—a sneaky move to neutralize unfavourable Supreme Court judgments that upheld pensioners' rights. By rewriting the law, the government is evading legal accountability.

Pension is a Right, Not a Favour: Retirees do not live on government generosity—they live on what is rightfully theirs. This amendment reeks of betrayal, treating pensioners as a burden rather than the backbone of the nation's workforce.

Call to Action

- ☐ We, as a pensioners' association, demand an immediate rollback of this anti-pensioner amendment. We call upon:
- ☐ Parliamentarians to oppose this draconian move and stand for justice.
- ☐ Trade Unions and Employee Associations to recognize this as a dangerous precedent that could impact future retirees as well.
- ☐ The Judiciary to take *suo moto* cognizance of this attempt to override legal protections.
- ☐ All pensioners and the public to unite in resisting this injustice and expose the government's anti-retiree agenda.

If the government does not withdraw this amendment, we will escalate our protests nationwide, mobilizing pensioners, employees, and the public against this blatant violation of rights.

We refuse to be silent victims. Pension is our right, and we will fight for it.

CONTINUE THE FIGHT DEFEAT THE ATTACK

Virtual Meeting on 2/4/2025

In response to our invitation, seven important pensioners' organizations viz. Bharat Pensioners Samaj (BPS), All India Federation of Pensioners Associations (AIFPA), Karnataka C.G Pensioners Association, Sanchar Nigam Pensioners Welfare Association (SNPWA), BSNL DoT Pensioners Association (BDPA (i), Retired Telecom Officers Welfare Association (RTOWA) Mumbai and AIBSNLPWA leaders have participated in the virtual meeting on 2/4/2025. Some could not attend due to some reasons including technical problems.

After exchange of views, there was a consensus on the following points:-

- a) Need for broad-based unity of pensioners organizations to face the onslaught and compel the government to repeal the validation act
- b) Issue a joint press statement
- c) Hold district-level convention before 31st May 2025
- d) Conduct signature campaign
- e) Explore the possibility for a legal battle

Signed by

- ◆ S C Maheswari, SG, Bharat Pension Samaj
- ◆ D Balasubramanyam, SG, AIFPA
- ◆ Giri Kanagotagi, GS KCGPA
- ◆ V Varaprasad, GS, AIBSNLPWA
- ◆ G L Jogi, GS SNPWA
- ◆ Dinesh Mistry, GS, BDPA(I)
- ◆ J S Yadav, GS RTOWA, Mumbai

A Press Statement condemning the amendment to CCS Pension rule and the Gazette Notification thereon was issued on 4-4-2025. The Statement was signed by the above leaders and also by MTNLREWA New Delhi, MTNLREWA Mumbai, AIRBSNLEWA New Delhi, DOT-BSNLPWA Kerala etc.

A Report by General Secretary

IMPORTANT MEETINGS

On 19-02-2025, along with Com. R S N Murthy senior Vice President, I met Ms. Roshni Sohni, DDG (Est.), Sanchar Bhawan. We requested proactive favourable action for the inclusion of our pension revision in terms of reference (ToR) of 8th CPC. We also requested the issuance of necessary clearance to BSNL Corporate office to settle the pension case of Sri V K Bhaskar, DE retired, Bareilly for the service rendered in DOT as per CCS(pension) rules sub-rule 24 (c) of rule 37A. She assured positive action on both matters.

On the same day we met Additional Secretary & CRCS, Sri Rabindra Kumar Agarwal, in Delhi and discussed the issue of pending dues for the members of GTECS Ltd Chennai. Copies of our letters written on previous occasions were also given. CRCS informed that the Registrar of Societies, Government of Tamil Nadu, has been requested to conduct an inspection regarding the matter. He also stated that they are in touch with the present Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Tamil Nadu. CRCS expressed sympathy for the affected members and assured that they are actively monitoring the situation. We requested CRCS to expedite the investigation and ensure that the dues are disbursed within a reasonable timeframe. We also requested him to visit Chennai to interact with the concerned in the State Govt. Addl Secretary further informed that in addition to departmental inspection, an independent agency has been appointed to investigate into the affairs of society. The CRCS office shared a letter addressed to Sri Karthi Chidambaram MP on the matter.

On 20-2-2025 both of us met Shri Rakesh Gupta, DDG (Accounts), DOT, to discuss the issue of reduction of last pay drawn (LPD) for retirees. We emphasized that the reduction was

irregular and that the verification period is limited to 24 months as per rules. DDG asked 10 cases of affected retirees along with PPO copies for his examination and assured that he will revisit the issue. The cases of LPD reductions along with PPO copies will again be submitted for further examination shortly.

On 20-2-2025, we met Shri Manoj Dwivedi, Additional Secretary, Department of Personnel & Training (DOPT) and briefed him on the issue of including BSNL pension revision in the terms of reference of the 8th central pay commission and emphasized its importance for retired BSNL employees. Shri Dwivedi assured that the matter will be examined, and appropriate action will be taken.

We along with Com. J. S. Dahiya, Organizing Secretary, met Ms. Rachana Shah, Secretary, Department of Personnel & Training (DOPT), at her office in North Block, New Delhi. During the meeting, we explained the issue of including BSNL pension revision in the terms of reference of the 8th central pay commission. The Secretary gave us a patient hearing and assured us that she would take appropriate action on the matter. The meeting lasted for about 20 minutes, and we expressed our gratitude to her for giving us the opportunity to present our case before the finalization of the terms of reference.

On 21-2-2025 I along with Com. Anupam Kaul, Deputy GS and Com. R. S. N. Murty met Shri Dhrubjyothi Sengupta, Joint Secretary, Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare (DOP&PW). During the meeting, we discussed several issues, including:

- Inclusion of BSNL pension revision in the Terms of Reference of the 8th CPC

- Pending status of BSNL pension revision
- Representation of AIBSNLPWA in SCOVA
- Formulation of new proposals for submission to the 8th CPC
- Pending settlement of pension for V. K. Bhaskar, Ex-DE, for his service rendered in DOT.

Shri Sengupta was joined by Shri Ravikiran Ubale, Director, and Smt. Ramanjit Kaur, Government Consultant. During our interaction, **he mentioned that he would try to suggest simplification of pension rules to avoid unnecessary litigations in pension-related matters.** The meeting was very positive, and we extended our sincere thanks for his time and attention to our concerns.

MEETING FINANCE MINISTER

On March 6, 2025, a delegation from AIBSNLPWA led by General Secretary V. Vara Prasad, Vice President R. S. N. Murthy and Visakhapatnam District Advisor Shri V. R. K. Sarma met Hon'ble Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman at Novotel Hotel, Visakhapatnam. During the meeting, we submitted a memorandum requesting the inclusion of the BSNL pension revision issue in the terms of reference of the 8th CPC. Smt. D. Purandeswari MP was also present during the meeting. Hon'ble Finance Minister listened attentively to our concerns. It is learned that she endorsed our letter to an officer accompanying her for further action.

The delegation also met AP Chief Minister Shri N. Chandrababu Naidu who came to meet FM. We requested him again to consider forwarding our letter, which we had previously submitted during our meeting with him on January 28, 2025, regarding the BSNL pension revision issue as a ToR to 8th CPC.

[Photos are given in Page 2].

CONTRIBUTION OF COM. R S N MURTY

I appreciate the great contributions made by Com. R S N Murty in the above meetings and discussions. He has personal friendship with some of the top officers in the Government. He utilized it for the benefit of our Association and our members all over India. Nevertheless, out of our enthusiasm and eagerness to settle the long pending issue, we should not forget the fact that officers, including the Secretary, have limitations. They have to work within the policy framework decided by the Government. In the wake of amendments made to CCS (Pension) Rule we are not sure of the final outcome of our sincere and concerted efforts. Even after the issue of our pension revision is included in the ToR of proposed 8th CPC, if the Government takes a decision to deny benefit of 8th CPC to existing pensioners, the entire efforts may go futile. Hence we await anxiously with crossed arms, the formal announcement of Government on appointment of 8th Central Pay Commission, its Terms of Reference and further developments.

FELICITATION



On 14-2-2025, AIBSNLPWA Dharwad District felicitated Smt. Jayashree Shivanand, who has taken over the charge as Vice Chancellor of Karnataka University, Dharwad. She is the wife of Com. C H Shivanand, our Karnataka Circle Vice President.

Vijayakumar Mandi
District Secretary,
AIBSNLPWA, Hubli

THE VIRTUAL MEETING BY DOP&PW

Press statement issued by Bharat Pension Samaj on 29-3-2025

A virtual meeting was convened today at 10.30 AM under the chairmanship of Shri V Sriivas, Secretary, Department of Pension & Pensioners Welfare to discuss pension related matters and to gather views on the recently passed Finance Bill. The meeting witnessed the participation/Viewers over 91 representatives from major pensioners' welfare associations across the country. In his opening remarks the Secretary, DoP&PW welcomed the participants and introduced the subject on discussion, inviting the associations to share their concerns and suggestions.

Key issues raised by pensioners' representatives included

Need for stake hold Consultation:

Shri Shiv Gopal Mishra, General Secretary NCJCM (Staff Side) thanked the Secretary for acknowledging the concerns of pensioners and stressed that major policy decisions affecting pensioners should be preceded by stakeholder consultation. He noted that while there is assurance from the Hon'ble minister regarding non-discrimination between past and future pensioners, a formal clarification from the government would go a long way in easing anxieties.

Concerns over Legislative Impact:

Shri S C Maheswari referred to the landmark Nakara judgement that established pension equality. He expressed apprehension that the new legislation may override this principle by granting the government the exclusive authority on the implementation and applicability of Central Pay Commission recommendations on pre-2026 pensioners.

Call for Clarification on 8th CPC:

Shri D Balasubramanyam questioned the need for new legislation when the 7th CPC had already adopted the principle of pension equality. He urged the Ministry or the Cabinet to clarify that the 8th CPC will not introduce any form of discrimination among pensioners.

Unified Demand for Equality:

Several other speakers echoed these concerns and urged that the Terms of Reference for the 8th CPC should clearly reflect the principle of equality with no distinction based on date of retirement.

The meeting saw active participation, with many pensioners seeking to voice their views. However, due to time constraints and the volume of inputs, the meeting concluded abruptly without a formal resolution.

The Department of Pension & Pensioners Welfare acknowledged the feedback and assured continued dialogue with stakeholders to ensure transparency and fairness in matters concerning pensioners.

THE MIGHTY GOVERNMENT ATTACKS JUDICIARY, SENIOR CITIZENS

While explaining the reasons for amending CCS Pension Rules indirectly through Finance Bill of 2025, Smt. Nirmala Sitaraman, the Hon'ble Finance Minister told Lok Sabha that the amendment became necessary because of several court cases.

S-30 Officers case:

The FM was provoked by a decision of Delhi High Court on 20th March 2024 in a case involving some senior central government officers who retired from the S-30 Pay Scale of (5th CPC) who were placed in Rs. 67000-79000 Scale from 1-1-2006. When 6th CPC report was implemented from 1-1-2006, these officers faced an anomaly in pension. Some of them got pension less than those who retired from S-29 or S-28 even. So, the S-30 officers filed a case on 1st January 2010 before CAT Delhi. The Tribunal gave its judgement in November 2014 asking the government to step up their pension, but restricted the arrears from date of filing the case. In a Review Petition CAT reiterated the decision in 2015 again. The officers approached Delhi High Court with an Appeal asking for arrears from 1-1-2006. The Government also filed an Appeal before Delhi High Court praying for setting aside the entire order of Tribunal. After a prolonged legal battle for 14 years the Delhi High Court ordered that arrears should be paid to the pensioners from 1-1-2006.

Then Government filed SP before Supreme Court of India. On 4-10-2024, the Hon'ble SC dismissed the SLP too. (See Page 23)

The government has now nullified all such judicial orders through a deceptive amendment to rule with retrospective effect by 53 long years.

The Finance Minister did not mention many other orders from various High Court and Supreme Court of India on pension.

We are mentioning few of them hereunder;

SPS Vains Case

A retired senior military officer Mr. SPS Vains faced some anomaly in pension. He filed a case before High Court of Haryana and Punjab and got favourable orders. The Government went on appeal. Finally in 2008 the Supreme Court dismissed Special Leave Petition filed by government. In the important judgement in Union of India v. SPS Vains (2008) 9 SCC 125 the Apex Court held that creation of a class within a class is illegal, unconstitutional and violative of the Fundamental Rights guaranteed by the Constitution. The case of SPS Vains became a base for many other cases in future, like D S Nakara case.

Deoki Nandan Prasad v. State of Bihar

"Pension is a right and the payment of it does not depend on the discretion of the Government and would be governed by the rules. It was held that a Government servant falling within those rules was entitled to claim pension. It was also held that the grant of pension did not depend upon anyone's discretion."

D S Nakara Vs GOI case judgement

The Supreme Court held that the pension is neither a bounty nor a matter of grace depending on the sweet will of the employer. It was held that it was a social welfare measure rendering socio-economic justice to those who in the hey-day of their life ceaselessly toiled for the employer for an assurance that in their old age they would not be left in lurch. It was held

that pension is not an incentive but a reward for past service. Hon'ble SC told that government can introduce a new scheme from a particular date and pay the monetary benefits from that date. But the benefits should not be denied to those who retired before that date. Pensioners as a whole form a homogenous class. They should not be divided and discriminated based on the date of their retirement.

[Note: The above landmark judgement was delivered by Constitution Bench of Supreme Court of India, consisting of five eminent judges. The judgement was hailed by even Pakistan Supreme Court. Now, Government is trying to nullify the decision of a Constitution Bench by an amendment that too introduced in a deceptive manner. With the amendment adopted by Lok Sabha on 25-3-2025 Government claims it has the authority to divide and discriminate pensioners based on date of retirement.]

Dr. Uma Agarwal v. State of U.P.

The Court held that grant of pensionary benefits is not a bounty but a right of employee and as such cannot be denied without proper justification.

State of Jharkhand and Ors v. Jitendra Kr. Srivastava & Anr.

A person cannot be denied his right to pension without the authority of law which is a constitutional mandate enshrined in Article 300 A of the Constitution.

Shrawan Kumar Das Vs State of Jharkhand

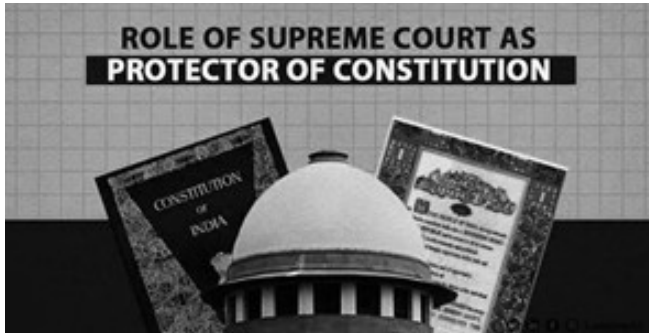
Relying upon several Court decisions State of Kerala v. M. Padmanabhan Nair, (1985) 1 SCC 429; D.D. Tewari v. Uttar Haryana Bijli Vitran Nigam Ltd., (2014) 8 SCC 894; State of A.P. v. Dinavahi Lakshmi Kameswari, 2021 SCC On-line SC 237, the High Court of Jharkhand directed the respondents to pay all retirement

benefits including pension with interest at the rate of 6% per annum simple interest on the delayed payment of retirement benefits including the consequential benefits, from the date of entitlement till the date of the actual payment. The Court further clarified that if the amount was not paid within six weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of its order, the same should carry interest at the rate of 18% per annum from the date of amount due to the petitioner till date of actual payment.

All Manipur Pensioners' Case:

Government of Manipur adopted and implemented CCS (Pension) Rule 1971 for its employees. Accordingly, the pay and pension of Manipur government staff were revised from 1.1.1996. The pensioners faced some anomaly in pension. All Manipur Pensioners' Association filed a case before Manipur High Court in 2000 and in March 2005 a Single Bench of the High Court gave a judgement in favour of pensioners. Manipur Government filed an Appeal. The division Bench of High Court set aside order of Single bench and decided the matter in favour of Government in March 2016. Against the said decision of the double bench Pensioners Association approached Supreme Court of India. After prolonged legal battle of 19 years, on 11th July 2019, a Division bench of Supreme Court consisting of Justice M R Shah and Justice B P Bopanna set aside order of Double Bench of Manipur HC, upheld the decision of Single Bench. The Supreme Court once again affirmed that "pensioners cannot be divided as different categories based on date of retirement and such divide is illegal and against Constitution of India."

Now the government, by the amendment to CCS Pension Rule equipped itself with the authority to divide pensioners based on date of retirement. It is nothing but blatant disrespect to Supreme Court and Constitution of India. .



IN INDIA, CONSTITUTION IS SUPREME

In the UK, Parliament is supreme, meaning it holds ultimate authority and can make or unmake any law, while in India, the Constitution is supreme, and the judiciary has the power to review and invalidate laws that violate it.

United Kingdom:

- The UK operates under the principle of parliamentary sovereignty, where Parliament is the supreme legal authority and can pass or repeal any law.
- Unlike India, the UK does not have a codified constitution, instead relying on a combination of statutes, common law, and conventions. While the judiciary interprets and applies laws, it cannot invalidate them, reflecting Parliament's ultimate authority.

[Note. If UK Parliament passes a rule that all citizens above 80 should be shot and killed – they will not pass such foolish rule – nobody can approach the Court against the decision. The Court cannot intervene.]

India:

- ☐ In India, the Constitution is supreme, and the judiciary has the power to review and strike down laws that violate it.
- ☐ Indian courts, particularly the Supreme Court, have the authority to conduct judicial review, ensuring that laws are consistent with the Constitution. In 2015, the Supreme Court of India declared that the National Judicial Appointments Commission Act and 99th Constitutional Amendment Act, passed by Parliament, were unconstitutional.
- ☐ India has a system of separation of powers, where the legislative, executive, and judicial branches have distinct functions and responsibilities.

[Note: The farsighted great men who drafted our Constitution seem to have anticipated that at some point of time some ill advised decisions can be taken by Indian law makers. Hence they made a provision that Court can intervene in such event and repeal any bad law.]

NATIONWIDE PROTEST AGAINST AMENDMENTS TO PENSION RULE



ANDHRA



ASSAM



BIHAR



CHHATTISGARH



CHENNAI



DELHI



GUJARATH



HARYANA

NATIONWIDE PROTEST AGAINST AMENDMENTS TO PENSION RULE



HIMACHAL PRADESH



KARNATAKA



KERALA



MADHYA PRADESH



MAHARASHTRA



ODISHA



PUNJAB

RAJASTHAN

NATIONWIDE PROTEST AGAINST AMENDMENTS TO PENSION RULE



TAMILNADU

TELANGANA



UP EAST

UP WEST



WEST BENGAL

TIRUCHIRAPALLI



TAMILNADU & CHENNAI

NATIONWIDE PROTEST AGAINST AMENDMENTS TO PENSION RULE



MUMBAI



KARNATAKA CGPA



PONDICHERRY



EPS PENSIONERS



VIJAYAWADA GENERAL BODY



PROTEST BY CITU

PROTEST BY AITUC

‘THE VALIDATION’ INVALIDATES ALL COURT ORDERS

OBJECTIVE:

Part IV of the Finance Bill validates the Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules and establishes the principles for expenditure on pension liabilities from the Consolidated Fund of India. It provides legal backing to the government’s authority in determining pension structures and classifications.

1. Legal Basis for Pension Rules:

Pension for Central Government employees is governed by the Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules, 1972, which have been replaced by the CCS (Pension) Rules, 2021 and CCS (Extraordinary Pension) Rules, 2023. Pension revisions are based on government decisions, particularly the recommendations of the Central Pay Commission (CPC).

2. Government’s Authority on Pension Classification:

The Central Government has the power to classify pensioners and maintain distinctions among them. Distinctions may be based on factors such as date of retirement or date of implementation of pay commission recommendations. Pension revisions will not have retrospective effect unless specifically decided by the government.

3. Validation Clause (Override on Court Judgments):

Any previous court ruling, decree, or tribunal order that contradicts the government’s authority to classify pensioners is overridden. The government retains the power to implement pension reforms as per the Pay Commission’s recommendations. The principle of different pension benefits for past and future retirees is upheld.

4. Effective Date:

This provision is retroactively effective from June 1, 1972, reinforcing the government’s authority over pension classifications from that date onward.

IMPLICATIONS:

- The government can legally justify differences in pension benefits based on retirement dates.
- Past legal challenges regarding pension parity are nullified by this validation clause.
- Future pension revisions will be subject to the government’s discretion and the accepted Pay Commission recommendations.

“SERVANTS OF THE PEOPLE”

While defending amendments to CCS Pension Rule is part of fiscal management the Centre approved a hike in the salaries of MPs, raising them by 24% to Rs 1.24 lakh, from the previous Rs 1 lakh per month. Besides the increase in the monthly salary, done on the basis of the Cost Inflation Index devised by the Income Tax department, the daily allowance for MPs while attending Parliament sessions and pensions have also been raised. The daily allowance has been hiked from Rs 2,000 to Rs 2,500 and the pension for former MPs from Rs 25,000 per month to Rs 31,000 per month. The additional pension for every year of service in excess of five years has been increased from Rs 2,000 per month to Rs 2,500 per month.

Until February 2018, Parliament had the power to pass laws to revise the salaries of MPs. Then, through the Finance Act, 2018, Parliament amended the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954 to increase the salary, daily allowance, and pension of MPs **every five years** on the basis of the Cost Inflation Index.

Back in 1954, the salary of MPs was set at Rs 300 a month, along with a daily allowance of Rs 20 while Parliament was in session. Since then, through a series of amendments, not only has this salary been revised numerous times, but MPs have also been granted several allowances, from travel to maintenance of offices. In 1955, when the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act was first amended, MPs were given allowances for travel in first-class coaches of the Indian Railways.

The next salary hike came in 1966, in 1969, in 1976, in 1983, in 1985, in 1988, in 1991, in 1993, in 1998 and in 2006,

Then came 2010, marking the largest ever hike in salaries, by 213% to Rs 50,000 per month. The daily allowance was doubled to Rs 2,000. In 2018, towards the end of the Modi government's first term, the salary of MPs was doubled to Rs 1 lakh a month, with the hike linked to the Cost Inflation Index and revisions scheduled once every five years. The latest hike, to Rs 1.24 lakh, was the first under the new inflation-linked revision system.

From 1954 to 2025, hence, the salary of MPs has risen by more than 400 times. In the same period, per capita monthly income has risen, incidentally, by eight times, from Rs 1,131 in 1953-54 to Rs 9,363 in 2024-25, as per the Economic Survey. Since 2010, an MP's salary has been more than 10 times greater than the prevailing per capita monthly income. The newly hiked salary is more than 13 times greater than the current per capita monthly income. Notably, the latest hike comes at a time when the average assets owned by an MP stands at Rs 40.34 crore.

However, MPs still earn less per month than MLAs in 18 states. For instance, Jharkhand gives the highest salaries to MLAs at Rs 2.88 lakh a month, followed by Maharashtra at Rs 2.61 lakh, Manipur and Telangana at Rs 2.5 lakh each, Himachal Pradesh at Rs 2.1 lakh, and Karnataka at Rs 2.05 lakh. The lowest earning MLAs are in Kerala (Rs 70,000 per month), Assam (Rs 80,000), Tripura (Rs 84,000), Delhi (Rs 90,000), and Punjab (Rs 94,000). Following the hike by the Centre of MP salaries, MLAs in Delhi demanded that their salaries be increased too – they were last increased in March 2023. The Assembly formed a five-member committee to look into the demands after both BJP and AAP legislators raised the issue in the House. [Courtesy: Indian Express].

WAIT AND WATCH

I have gone through the Amendment Bill passed by the Lok Sabha today. It is meant to amend the CCS (Pension) Rules. It is a serious development from our angle.

A perusal shows that the trigger to enact this amendment was the Contempt Case we have filed in Delhi High Court last year for non-implementation of the HC judgement which already stands validated by the Supreme Court. It is meant to deny the hefty arrears of pension accruing to us and also to escape the punishment for Contempt of Court.

The above cited judgment of the Supreme Court in SLP (Civil) No. 29124 of 2024 in the case of the Union of India and Ors. Vs All India S-30 Pensioners Association and Ors. is exactly the case to which our case was tagged in Delhi High Court. The Government's SLP was dismissed by the Supreme Court in October last year. Today's amendment is meant to supersede that judgement.

The relevant portion of the Press Release of the Press Information Bureau issued by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions today is extracted below:-

"The validation legislation validates the principle that without prejudice to the Pension Rules, the Central Government has the authority to establish distinctions among pensioners as a general principle and that a distinction may be made or maintained amongst the Pensioners, which may emanate from the accepted recommendations of the Central Pay Commissions, and in particular the distinction may be made on the basis of the date of retirement. The legislation has been made effective from 1.6.1972, thereby validating all Rules made under Article 309 of the Constitution

for CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972, CCS (Pension) Rules, 2021, CCS (Extraordinary Pension) Rules, 2023 including all instructions issued thereunder as amended from time to time".

It is clearly meant to assert Government's authority to amend the Pension Rules anytime. It is also covertly meant to supersede the Court's judgment cited above to avoid the legal liability for arrears to past pensioners. It is also covertly meant to make our contempt case pending in Delhi High Court redundant/infructuous.

The Supreme Court had previously ruled (notably in D.S. Nakara Vs. UOI, and reiterated in later cases) that differentiating pensioners solely on the basis of retirement date is discriminatory. The amendment is designed to legislatively overturn or neutralise the Court's interpretation. By stating explicitly that Pay Commission benefits apply only to future retirees, the government has sought to restore its discretion. Applying revised Pay Commission benefits retrospectively to all existing pensioners (especially those who retired decades ago) could involve massive arrears and recurring pension liabilities. By limiting the benefits to new retirees, the amendment seeks to control Govt expenditure and to ensure budget predictability in managing pensions.

In effect, this is a legislative response to undo/bypass the consequences of an adverse court judgment. It seeks to retroactively validate the government's practice of using retirement dates as cutoffs for pension revisions and to prevent future litigation by putting the rule explicitly in statute. Let us keep our fingers crossed and wait and watch.

J.K. Khanna IPS

Retd. DGP, GS Forum of Retd IPS Officers.

Thus killed the issue

ADDITIONAL PENSION FROM 80

Question No. 2991 from
SHRI MANICKAM TAGORE B:
SHRI VIJAY VASANTH:

ANSWER
On 19-3-2025 in Lok Sabha

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

by Minister Of State of Personnel, Public Grievances And Pensions

(a) the rationale behind setting the eligibility age for additional pension benefits at 80;

(a) to (f): Government has on the recommendation of the 6th CPC approved the quantum of additional pension of 20% on attaining the age of 80 years, 30% on attaining the age of 85 years, 40% on attaining the age of 90 years, 50% on attaining the age of 95 years and 100% on attaining the age of 100 years, on the rationale that the older pensioners require a better deal because their needs, especially those relating to health, increase with age.

(c) the number of Central Government pensioners expected to benefit from the additional pension scheme and the estimated annual expenditure likely to be incurred under this scheme;

The recommendation of the Parliamentary Standing Committee for amendments in additional pension in its 110th report dated 10.12.2021 have been duly examined in the Government and an action taken report was submitted on 06.06.2022. The Parliamentary Standing Committee in its 120th report dated 08.12.2022 noted the action taken report and observed that the Committee do not wish to pursue this matter for now.

(d) the measures taken/being taken by the Government to ensure that pensioners receive their additional pension benefits in a timely and transparent manner and there are no delays or discrepancies in the payment process;

The additional pension is automatically paid to the pensioner/family pensioner by the Pension Disbursing Authorities/Banks as soon as it becomes due. The instructions/guidelines, as issued by the Government from time to time, are there in place ensuring scrupulous and timely payment of additional pension. The grant of additional pension is age based only. To address the concern regarding inflation and rising living costs, Dearness Relief equivalent to Dearness Allowance is payable to the pensioners/family pensioners at such rate as Central Government may specify from time to time. The dearness relief is applicable on additional pension also.

(e) whether the Government is considering to extend the additional pension benefits to State Government pensioners and other categories of retirees and if so, the timeline for implementing this extension; and

(f) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to address the concerns that the additional pension benefits may not keep pace with inflation and the mechanisms put in place to ensure that the benefits are indexed to rising living costs?

INDIAN DEMOCRACY

INDIAN JUDICIARY

Brief history of the case filed by All India S-30 Pensioners' Association

- Officers in S-30 Grade were top bureaucrats while in service.
- Some of them, faced a serious anomaly in pension from 1-1-2006 when 6th CPC report was implemented.
- Immediately after the orders on 6th CPC report were issued in 2008 they represented for removal of the anomaly.
As usual, the representations were ignored.
- The All India S-30 Pensioners' Association filed a case before Principal Bench of CAT on 1-1-2010. Government first objected to it pleading that there was delay in filing the case.
- CAT disposed the petition in November 2014. Delay was condoned. CAT admitted that there is anomaly and it should be removed. But, financial benefits may be granted only from date of filing the case, not from the date on which anomaly started.
- Aggrieved with it the S-30 Association filed a Review Application. The CAT disposed the RA in 2015 confirming its earlier order.
- The Association filed an Appeal before Delhi High Court in 2016 praying for arrears from 1-1-2006 itself.
- Simultaneously Government also filed an Appeal praying for setting aside the CAT Order.
- On 20-3-2024, after 8 years, Delhi High Court dismissed the appeal by the Government and ordered that arrears shall be payable from 1-1-2006.
- Again, the Government went to the Supreme Court with an SLP.
- On 4-10-2024, A division bench of SC consisting of J. Mr B R Gavai and J. Mr K V Viswsanathan dismissed the SLP (D No 29124/24) and upheld High Court order. SC Order says:
1. Delay condoned. 2. We are not inclined to entertain these special leave petitions. The special leave petitions are, accordingly, dismissed.
- On 13-1-2025, after 15 years of legal battle, the Association filed a Contempt of Court petition before Delhi High Court. On 8th April 2025, when the petition came up for hearing, Secretary, DoP&PW appeared online and stated that Government has acquired powers with retrospective effect to divide the pensioners and deny any benefit. The Single Bench raised a doubt about constitutionality of the amendment and referred the matter to Double Bench of the High Court. The Government is forced to stand up before the Judiciary. Hence, the unprecedented action of amending rules with retrospective effect, to nullify all judicial orders.



AIC FUND

An appeal

We have no patrons, political or otherwise. We have no promoters. You are our patron.

In 2009, our comrades reached Chennai from 15 circles to participate in the formation conference which launched this mighty organization, AIBSNLPWA. All the participants met the expenses from their own pockets. More than 500 delegates came to Jaipur in 2012 to attend the second conference. Rajasthan comrades, with limited membership, did a wonderful job. They faced lot of financial problem in hosting the conference.

With that experience, we took a conscious decision in CWC to collect AIC Fund from each and every member all over the country so that the host Circle/Branch should not face financial crisis. Moreover, we were growing fast, the number of Delegates increased conference by conference. The expenditure was increasing manifold.

Next AIC is in Kochi, Kerala on 8th and 9th November 2025. As our Advisor Com. P S Ramankutty has already indicated, the port city of Kochi is a costly city. Dharamsalas are not available in Kerala. Lodges are the only alternative. Big lodges charge rent at exorbitant rates. We

cannot afford them. The delegates being all senior people must be accommodated in rooms with cots and toilets. As such we have to depend upon small lodges with moderate rate. We have to make arrangements for 900 participants for four days' stay and two days' conference.

The expenditure is approximately Rs One crore. Kerala comrades are trying to collect maximum from the members.

We do not approach business people. We do not approach anyone outside our membership. Conference should not be a burden on hosts; not only now, but in future also. Hence we collect AIC fund and help the hosts.

I request each and every member of our Association in every Circle to kindly donate a sum of Rs 100 per head to hold the next AIC. I call upon all Branch Secretaries to collect the AIC Fund and remit it to the CHQ Treasurer, on-line or through DD. Kindly intimate the name of your branch when you remit the amount.

Please collect the fund from members during May-June-July and remit the amount to CHQ Treasurer in August 2025. Let us hold our conference with our own resources.

With greetings,

**V Vara Prasad,
General Secretary.**

ALL INDIA CONFERENCE

For the kind Attention of Circle/District Secretaries/Delegates,

- ☐ In the Whatsapp groups of CWC members and District Secretaries we have published the details of membership as on 31-3-2025 with number of AIC delegates entitled by each District Unit. The District Units may elect Delegates accordingly. Our Constitution with amendments adopted by Visakhapatnam AIC is available in our Website.
- ☐ We shall admit delegates to the Ernakulam AIC strictly in accordance with provisions in our Constitution; One delegate for every 100 members. No visitor/observer shall be admitted in Ernakulam AIC due to accommodation constraints.
- ☐ District Unit is the base unit for AIC. There may be branches under a District Unit. (Eg. Trivandrum has 1048 members in 9 branches. 10 Delegates will be admitted based on total membership in Trivandrum District Unit; not separately on Branch membership). The total life membership of the District Unit as on 31-3-2025 shall be taken for calculating the number delegates entitled. Quota received by CHQ shall only be basis for the purpose.
- ☐ District Secretary should submit the list of delegates from his district with a Credential Certificate that they are duly elected. None will be admitted without such Credential Certificate from the respective District Secretary. It is still better if concerned Circle Secretary collect such Credential Certificates from all his District Units, hand over them to the Reception Committee and arrange to collect Bags, Badges, Documents etc.
- ☐ Circle Secretaries are Ex-Officio members of CWC and AIC. [District Secretaries are Ex-Officio members in Circle Executive and Circle Conference, not in AIC.]
- ☐ In case of elections in the AIC, only the CWC Members and the delegates admitted have voting right, one vote per head. All these years we could elect office bearers unanimously. We do hope that we can do so in next AIC also. At the same time, we have to be ready otherwise also. Voting and counting may consume 8-10 hours.
- ☐ While occupying rooms in hotels, it is mandatory to submit copy of Adhar Card. More over, as part of the anti-drug operations the Police may search any room in hotels and demand identity cards from the occupants. Hence all participants must carry their Adhar Cards.
- ☐ Let us make the conference a disciplined and historic event.

**V Vara Prasad,
General Secretary.**

Kerala High Court / CAT Orders
**PRE-2006 BSNL PENSIONERS ARE
ENTITLED TO PENSION AT 50% OF LPD.**

In 2018 we filed two cases before Ernakulam bench of CAT praying (1) “To direct the DoT to extend to the pre 2006 DoT absorbed BSNL IDA pensioners, the benefit of the pension formula of 50% of the last pay drawn or 50% of the last ten months average pay which ever is advantageous to them and disburse all the consequential benefits to them with arrears and interest.” In the second case we prayed for “grant of arrears on account of pension revision with revised formula of 78.2 from 1-1-2007 upto 9-6-2013.” First Applicant in both cases was AIBSNLPWA represented by P S Ramankutty, the then President . Com. P Vadivel, a senior leader who retired in 2003 was the second Applicant in first case, while Com. Vadivel and Com. Pada Nair were the Applicants in the second case. The Tribunal dismissed the first Petition in September 2019. Then we filed an Appeal before Kerala High Court in 2020. On 7-2-2025, the Hon’ble High Court of Kerala gave its judgement – in favour of pensioners but against unions filing such cases. Excerpts are given below. Details of the second case are given in next page.

Excerpts from order of High Court:

2. Before we could dictate the judgment, we have seen that the O.A. was filed on behalf of the association and none of the persons. It is settled law that the association cannot espouse the grievance of the major persons. Therefore, the present O.P.(CAT) will be only confined to the relief viz-a-viz petitioner No.2.

5. Learned tribunal, vide order under challenge, rejected the claim.

11. On perusal of the above, it is evident that none of the conditions of the letter have excluded the applicability of the conditions to the IDA or applicability to the CDA pay scale. Concededly, the applicant is a pre 2016 pay scale retiree.

12. On cumulative reading of the Rule as well as paragraph No.7 of Annexure A5 Office Memorandum, it is evident that the

benefit of 50% of the notional pay on the basis of the recommendation of the 7th Central Pay Commission revising the pay scales including the pensions have not explicitly excluded the retirees, who were drawing the IDA pay scales.

13. From the tenor and mode of the finding, extracted above of the tribunal it is evident that none of the aforementioned conditions particularly condition Nos.4 and 12 (emphasis supplied) have been taken into consideration.

We are of the view that it is a fit case where interference is required. Accordingly, **judgment of the Central Administrative Tribunal is set aside.** O.A. is allowed. Consequently, O.P.(CAT) stands allowed. Respondents are directed to grant relief in terms of Annexure A5 to the petitioner No.2/ applicant, who is a pre- 2016 pensioner, within a period of two months from the date of receipt of certified copy of the judgment.

ERNAKULAM CAT ORDER

OA 338/2018

Excerpts from the CAT order:

Para 3. All the applicants had commenced employment in Telecom Department in various capacities. It is a matter of common knowledge that the BSNL was formed on 01.10.2000 as a public sector undertaking culling out from the Department of Telecom and Department of Telecom Operations. In its formative stage, the Government employees in the above stated two services were first transferred to BSNL on deemed deputation basis. Later, they were given option to continue either in Government service or seek permanent absorption in BSNL.

Rule 37A of CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972 was incorporated as a prelude to the formation of the BSNL with appropriate provisions for protecting the interests of the employees. It is also not disputed that this process of absorption was completed only by 2004.

16. It is also settled by authorities that Court should refrain from interfering with the policy decision, which might have a cascading effect and having financial implications. Here, after deciding to revise the pay and pension of the employees in principle, mode of payment, date of implementation etc. were confessed on the Public Sector Undertakings, depending on its affordability. It is the policy of the Government which is beyond the province of interference.

17. Thus it was decided that the presidential directives shall come into force on 10.06.2013 and the employees/retirees are not entitled to get the arrears of pay/pension, based on such a policy decision. It is not within the

domain of this Tribunal to go into the legality and correctness of a policy decision. That means, that part of prayer for interfering with the decision touching the payment of arrears cannot be gone into.

18. The second aspect is with regard to the amount of DCRG payable to a pensioner. As rightly pointed out by the learned counsel appearing for the applicants, payment of DCRG is a statutory benefit given to a pensioner based on the length of service put in by him.

19. In other words, gratuity is a statutory benefit granted to employees like the applicants who retired from service on superannuation. Such a right cannot be curtailed or interfered with by an executive order Such orders cannot be passed with respect to commuted value of pension or leave encashment as well. **But the applicants were not covered by CCS (Pension) Rule** at the time of their retirement. If there is any statutory backing for such claim that also cannot be curtailed. Anyhow, attempt to curtail entitlement of the applicants to get gratuity from the date of retirement is illegal and unsustainable. **To sum up, the Original Applications are disposed of rejecting the claim of the applicants for arrears of pay/pension from 01.01.2007 to 10.06.2013. However, portions in clause 4(b) of Annexure-A10 curtailing amount of DCRG is quashed and it is declared that they are entitled to get gratuity commensurate with their length of service, from the date of their retirement on superannuation. No costs.**

It is observed that the Hon'ble Tribunal was confused about applicability of CCS (Pension) Rule as it mentioned contradictory way in the judgement. Pointing out this error we filed a Review Petition. It was listed for 11-4-2025, but, could not be heard for want of time. As the Tribunal will remain closed for a month on summer vacation, the RA will be taken up only after 13th May 2025.

AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION:

Proposals from members are called for amendment to the Constitution of our Association, to be placed before next AIC. Below we publish one proposal .

General Secretary

Existing Constitution:

7(a) The All India Conference shall comprise of the members of Central Working Committee and the delegates from District Units. The All India Conference shall be the Supreme Body of All India BSNL Pensioners' Welfare Association. The Central Working Committee shall comprise of the following Central Office Bearers elected by the previous All India Conference and Circle Secretaries:

One President, Vice Presidents,
One General Secretary, Deputy General Secretaries, Assistant General Secretaries, Organising Secretaries, One Treasurer and Assistant Treasurers.

(Total number shall not exceed 35)

I propose that last sentence be replaced with:
(Total number shall not exceed 40)

Reason/Justification:

Our membership has increased significantly from Visakhapatnam AIC to Kochi AIC. We have 22 Circle Units at present. The growth is not uniform. To improve the organizational strength in weaker areas, we must accommodate at least one more leader in CHQ from each Circle, other than the Circle Secretary. The number of posts entitled by major Circles, who form the backbone of our organization, cannot be reduced. At the same time, the CWC should not be a jumbo body. Hence, it is required to increase the number of CHQ office bearers from 35 to 40.

15 YEARS, 75 ISSUES

This is the 75th issue of our printed journal. Within nine months of formation of our organization we launched the journal in May 2010. First few years, it was a trimonthly publication. Then we made it bimonthly. During the Covid-19 period we could not bring out the printed journal. Instead, we released 14 issues of EJournal, containing more pages and many photos showing impact of Corona virus the world over. All these 15 years, not a single issue was delayed.

We tried to ensure that the printed journal reaches maximum number of comrades on time. Coms. G Natarajan, P Gangadhara Rao and Varaprasad, all as General Secretaries, reposed full faith on me and provided all possible help. Com. DG made monumental contribution with valuable materials.

Now I am 81. Age has telling impact on my health and my mental ability too. Mental acumen is ebbing away slowly. More than anyone else I am aware of it. However I shall continue to work as Editor till next All India Conference. I must call it a day. I hope the next AIC will select a suitable person who can do the work as editor, better than I; who knows Photoshop, InDesign, QuarkXpress etc. As time passes, younger brains must take over the responsibilities. All seniors should not be removed at a stretch. It should be in a phased manner. Rich experience is the most valuable quality for leadership. The leadership should be a blend of both young and old. This is my personal view; purely personal.

I tried to do my duty with all humility and sincerity. Thank you all for kind blessings.

Proposed by P S Ramankutty

01-05-2025

P S Ramankutty

M R Patnaik, Vice President

PLANNED PURSUANCE, PATIENCE AND PERSEVERANCE PAYS

During the Ahmedabad CWC in October 2023, our beloved CHQ Advisor, Shri. P S Ramankutty, consciously predicted that, the Hon'ble PBCAT ND judgement is only the beginning of our victory, and we need to continue our legal battle for final triumph. Our President Shri. D Gopalakrishnan emphasized the need to persuade the official machinery at all levels and simultaneously to secure political patronage at highest level to achieve our long pending just demand of pension revision as per 7th CPC formulae.

Triggered by this advice, two of our resourceful comrades Sri R S N Murthy (VP CHQ) and Sri V R K Sarma, Advisor, Vizag district, led by our GS Shri. Varaprasad, through the good will of Sri G V L Narasimharao, Hon'ble MP, could meet then Telecom Minister Shri. Ashwini Vaishnav at Visakhapatnam on 8th Dec 2023, and submitted memorandum. On 20th July 2024, the trio could secure audience with Shri. Pemmasani Chandrasekhar, Hon'ble MOSC at Guntur and briefed him. On 28th Jan 2025, delegation led by our GS helped by Shri. Kesineni Shivnath, Hon'ble MP of Vijayawada, met AP CM Shri. Chandrababu Naidu at Vijayawada to hand over our contribution for flood relief and

succeeded in getting his blessings to use his good offices with NDA government in solving our problem. With utmost patience and continued pursuance, our duo R S N Murthy and V R K Sarma, led by our GS Varaprasad, with the support of Smt D Purandeswari, Hon'ble MP of Rajahmundry could finally meet our Finance Minister Smt Nirmala Sitharaman at Visakhapatnam on 6th March 2025, for about 15 fruitful minutes, explained in detail and submitted memorandum. Needless to say our comrades at New Delhi Shri. Anupam Kaul Dy GS, and Shri. J S Dahiya, AGS are toiling, in attending courts and meeting officers across New Delhi as needed.

In our long experience in public life, we are witnessing in many democracies world over, "**Law of Ruler**" prevailing over "**Rule of Law**". So also, in the executive mind set. Undoubtedly, we garnered empathy of political bosses with sincere and constant efforts of our comrades. But will it overcome the hurdle of apathy and negative attitude of DOT bureaucracy?

We should be ever vigilant, disciplined and wait patiently with our core principle of Peace, Truth and Unity set by the founding fathers of our mighty association.

UP WEST CIRCLE CONFERENCE Office-bearers elected

Patron: Sh. R C Sharma

President:

Chandramohan Sharma

Vice Presidents:

**Brajlal
Karan Singh
V K Mehta
Swambhar Singh
Vinod Sharma
Bisanpal Bharti
M. Yusuf Khan
B R Varfma**

Circle Secretary:

Kailash Gautam

Asst Circle Secretaries:

**Rajveer Singh
Babu Ram
Surendrapal Premi
Dhara Singh
Anilkumar Gupta
Rampal
Laxman Singh
Harishankar Nayak**

Treasurer:

Rakesh Chandra

Asst. Treasurer:

Vijayakumar Sharma

Organising Secretaries:

**Viswsanath Singh
B B Singh
P K Sharma
M Shahabuddin
E M Sharma
Kiran Varma**

Auditor:

Ajay Sharma

HARYANA CIRCLE CONFERENCE Office-bearers elected

President :

J.S Dahiya

Vice Presidents :

**Pawan kumar
Madan mohan Khetarpal
R.P Kaushik
Ram Narayan Sharma**

Circal Secretary :

J.S Malik

Asstt. Circal Secretaries:

**N.L Tanwar
V.P Malik
Bal Krishan Panwar
Hari Ram
Raghbir Singh**

Org. Secretaries:

**K.S Chauhan
Shiv Singh
Sita Ram
Rajender Kumar
Ram singh Saini**

AIBSNLPWA ONWARD MARCH



Tumkur Dist conference on 8-2-25

Womens Day by Calicut Branch



Womens Day by Chennai Tfc. Br.

Womens Day by Kottayam Branch



Jabalpur Dist conference

Bangalore monthly meeting



Thanjavur Dist conference

Dharwad Dist conference

PENSIONERS PATRIKA

MAY - JUNE, 2025

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Haryana Circle Conference



UP West Circle Conference



Telanganana - CEC meeting



Tamil Nadu - CEC meeting

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