

CONSTITUTION OF AIBSNLPWA

[As amended by Visakhapatnam AIC.
Effective from 01-01-2023]

1. Name:

Name of the Society shall be ALL INDIA BSNL PENSIONERS' WELFARE ASSOCIATION, hereinafter called the Association.

2. Jurisdiction:

The jurisdiction of the Association shall be whole of India.

3. Headquarters:

The Headquarters of the Association shall be at the seat of General Secretary, for the time being at H. No 54-19-31, Lakshmi Gokul Enclave, L I C Colony, Vijayawada 520008.

4. Aims and Objects: The aims and objects of the Association shall be:

- (a) To promote, protect and safeguard the interests and welfare of persons retired from Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited as well as Department of Telecom and their family members without any political or communal or regional or cadre bias.
- (b) To work in unison/coordination with the organizations with similar aims and objects for the overall well-being of the pensioner community in the country.
- (c) To work in close and live contact with service organizations of BSNL staff.
- (d) To redress the grievances of members of the Association resorting to appropriate action, including legal.
- (e) To run journal/journals for projecting the issues concerning BSNL retirees and central government service pensioners in particular and senior citizens in general.
- (f) To establish, maintain and run old age homes etc. for the needy and to undertake such other charitable and welfare activities.

5. Membership:

- (a) A person retired from BSNL or from Department of Telecom or a family pensioner of BSNL/DOT covered by CCS (Pension) Rules, 1921 only is eligible for membership in the Association. A member has to pay an Admission fee of Rs 1000.00 (Rupees One thousand only) as life Membership subscription. Executive Committee of District Unit has the right to reject application for membership from any person. Spouse of the deceased Life Member shall be eligible to become a Life member, without paying the subscription.
- (b) Members in default shall have no right to participate in the meetings or elections

without clearing the arrears up to date.

[Note: In case a member shifts his/her residence to another station and wants to join the branch there it shall be permitted by the Secretary of parent branch issuing a Transfer Certificate, on a written request from the concerned member. In such instances the member shall not be required to pay membership again.]

(c) Cessation of Membership: A person shall cease to be a member of the Association by resignation, death, disqualification, insolvency or liquidation or for non-attending without taking leave for absence three consecutive meetings of the general body/Committee as the case may be. Such member who is disqualified and expelled from the Association can be readmitted as member by the Circle Conference/All India Conference on receiving a formal request from the concerned person.

6. Eligibility to become Office-bearers:

No person who is not a member of the Association shall be eligible to become office-bearer, including Patron and Advisor, of the Association at any level. Office Bearers of the working unions/Associations are not eligible to become office bearer of the AIBSNLPWA.

7. Organizational Set-up:

The Association shall have the following organizational set-up at the national, circle and district levels:

(a) **National level: All India Conference and Central Working Committee.** 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)*

The CWC shall have the power to appoint Editor of the journal published by the Association and to nominate Patrons or Advisors who shall be the invitees to the committee till the next conference.

(b) Circle Level: Circle Conference and Circle Executive Committee:

The Circle Conference shall comprise of the members of Circle Executive Committee and delegates from District Units.

The Circle Executive Committee shall comprise of the following Circle office-bearers elected by the previous Circle Conference and the District Secretaries of the Circle: One President, Vice Presidents, One Circle Secretary, Assistant Circle Secretaries, Organising Secretaries, One Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer (Total number of above office bearers shall not exceed 25 in Circles having Life membership up to 5000 in previous year, it shall not exceed 30 in Circles having Life membership of 5001-10000 and it shall not exceed 35 in Circles having Life membership of above 10000)

(c) **District Level: General Body and District Committee:**

The District General Body shall comprise of all the members of the Association in the respective district and the members of District Committee. The District Committee shall comprise of the following office bearers elected by the previous district general body:

One President, Vice Presidents, One District Secretary, Asst. District Secretaries, Organising Secretaries, One Treasurer and Assistant Treasurers (Total number shall not exceed 25)

The District Unit shall be the base unit of the Association. However, the District Committee can, subject to ratification by the next General Body meeting, form branches for better and effective functioning of the organization. The branch shall have at least 10 members. The jurisdiction of such branches shall be decided by the District Committee. If there is any dispute about the jurisdiction, it shall be decided by the Circle Executive Committee which shall be final. The subscription collected by the branch shall be remitted to District, Circle and CHQ @ 20%, 20% and 20% respectively in the manner specified in Clause 11.

8(a). **Delegates:**

To All India Conference: Number of Delegates from District Units shall be One Delegate for every 100 members or part thereof.

To Circle Conference: One delegate for every 50 members or part thereof (for Circles having membership of over 10000) One delegate for every 30 members or part thereof (for Circles having membership of over 5000 and below 10000) One delegate for every 20 members or part thereof (for Circles having membership of less than 5000 membership).

To District Conference: One Delegate for every 20 members or part thereof from Branches. If there is no branch in a District all members are entitled to participate in the district conference.

Number of delegates shall be decided on the basis of total Life Members as at the end of previous financial year.

(b). **Voting Strength**: In the Conferences and meetings of Committees, Committee Members and Delegates shall have one vote each, except for the purpose of election of office-bearers. For election of office-bearers the voting strength shall be as follows:

(i) The voting strength of the CHQ Office-bearers in the All India Conference shall be restricted to 10% of the total voting strength of the Delegates subject to a maximum of one vote for each office-bearer. Circle Secretaries and Delegates shall have one vote each. In case of tie, the person presiding over the meeting shall have casting vote in addition to his normal vote.

(ii) The voting strength of the Circle Office-bearers in the Circle Conference shall be restricted to 10% of the total voting strength of the Delegates subject to a maximum of one vote for each office-bearer. District Secretaries and Delegates shall have one vote each. In case of tie, the person presiding over the meeting shall have casting vote in addition to his normal vote.

9. Duties and Responsibilities of Officebearers:

(i) **President**: He shall have overall supervision of the affairs of the Association at the respective level and shall preside over the meetings.

(ii) **Vice Presidents**: They shall assist the President in his/her functions and one of them shall preside over the meetings in the absence of President.

(iii) **General Secretary**: He shall be the Chief Executive and responsible for the day-to-day functioning of the Association. He shall convene the meetings of All India Conference and Central Working Committee. He shall be the custodian of all the properties belonging to the Association at the national level.

(iv) **Deputy General Secretary**: He shall assist the General Secretary in his functioning and shall act as General Secretary in the absence of the General Secretary.

(v) **Assistant General Secretaries**: They shall assist the General Secretary in his functioning and shall also discharge other duties assigned to them by the General Secretary. One of them shall act as General Secretary in the absence of General Secretary or Deputy General Secretary. It shall be decided by the President and General Secretary.

(vi) **Treasurer**: He shall be responsible to maintain the accounts and to present the audited accounts of the Association in the conference. He is the custodian of funds. He shall operate the Bank/Post Office accounts of the Association jointly with

the General Secretary. (vii) Assistant Treasurer: He/she shall assist the Treasurer in his functioning and act as Treasurer in the absence of the Treasurer.

Note: The duties and responsibilities mentioned above shall be applicable to Office-Bearers at different levels mutatis mutandis.

10. Funds:

Funds of the Association shall be the subscription/donations from the members as well as any financial aid received from the government. The funds shall be deposited in Post Office Savings Bank or in any nationalized bank as fixed by the respective committee and shall be jointly operated by the Secretary and Treasurer. The FD at all levels shall be utilized only with a specific decision with 2/3rd majority of members present in CWC/CEC/DEC meeting, and that too for a specific purpose. Any welfare activity/charity involving collection of donations from members, organized by office-bearers shall be done with specific approval of respective unit.

11. Quota:

New allocation shall be :

Out of Rs 1000 collected from a member, Branch shall remit Rs 600 to the District. The District Treasurer shall remit Rs. 200 to CHQ, Rs 200 to Circle. If there is no branch under the District the District Treasurer shall remit Rs 200 each to Circle and CHQ. Branch shall submit its accounts to District Secretary in April every year. District Unit shall submit its accounts to Circle Secretary before June every year. Circle Unit shall submit its accounts to General Secretary before August every year. Branches and Districts should remit the proportionate quota to higher levels within one month from the date of receipt of subscription.

12. Accounting Year:

The Accounting year of the Association shall be from 1st April to 31st March next year.

13. Audit:

The Accounts of the Association shall be audited by a Chartered Accountant at the national level; at other levels either by a chartered accountant or by a person nominated by the respective conference.

14. Meetings:

The Schedule shall be

- (i) All India Conference: Once in three years
- (ii) Central Working Committee meeting: once in a year, virtually or physically
- (iii) Circle Conference: Once in three years

- (iv) Circle Executive Committee Meeting: once in six months, virtually or physically
- (v) District conference: Once in a year but election of office-bearers shall be held once in two years
- (vi) District Committee: as and when required, but at least once in three months.
- (vii) Branch Conference : Once in a year

The Notice period shall be

- i) All India Conference : 45 days
- ii) CWC Meeting : 30 days
- iii) Circle Conference : 30 days
- iv) CEC meeting : 15 days
- v) District Conference : 15 days
- vi) District Committee : 10 days

15. Quorum for meetings:

The required quorum for the meetings shall be as follows:

All India Conference: 50% of Central Working Committee Members and one fourth of the Delegates eligible to attend, provided 50% of circles represented.

Central Working Committee: Half of the members of the Committee.

Circle Conference: 50% of Circle Executive Committee members and one third of the Delegates eligible to attend provided 50% of SSA Units represented

Circle Executive Committee: Half of the members of the Committee.

District Conference: 50% of District Executive Committee and one fourth of t members in the District .

Dist Committee: Half of the office-bearers.

Note: Adjourned meeting shall have no quorum limit.

16. Disciplinary Action:

Disciplinary action can be taken against any member of the Association for antinational activities, anti-organizational activities or moral turpitude after issuing notice to the concerned member. The powers vested with authorities at different level for taking disciplinary action shall be as follows:

(a) The District General Body has the power to take any disciplinary action, except expulsion from the primary membership of the Association, against any member in the District.

(b) The District Committee, in between two meetings of the General Body, has the power to take any disciplinary action, except expulsion from the primary membership of the Association, against any member in the District. Such decision shall be placed before the next General Body meeting for ratification.

- (c) The Circle Conference has the power to take any disciplinary action, including expulsion from the primary membership of the Association, against any office-bearer or member in the Circle.
- (d) The Circle Executive Committee has the power to take any disciplinary action, except expulsion from the membership of the Association, against any of its members.
- (e) The Central Working Committee has, in between two All India Conferences, has the power to take any disciplinary action, except expulsion from the primary membership of the Association, against any member or office-bearer at any level, subject to ratification by the next All India Conference.
- (f) The All India Conference has the power to take any disciplinary action against any office-bearer or any member of the Association.
- (g) In case any dispute arises in Circle Conference, the General Secretary is authorized to take suitable action to intervene. In case any dispute arises in District conference, the Circle Secretary is authorized to take suitable action to intervene.

Notes:

- i) The conference/committee at a particular level shall have no power to take disciplinary action against a person holding any post of office-bearer of the Association at its higher level.
- (ii) Appeal against a disciplinary action shall be filed before the next higher level Conference. The All India Conference shall be the final appellate authority.

17. Strength of the Governing Body:

The minimum number of members in Governing Body at every level shall be fifteen and the maximum shall be thirtyfive. Secret ballot shall be mode of election in case of contest.

18. Term Office and Filling up of vacancy:

The term of the office of Governing Body shall be from Conference to Conference as prescribed in Article 14 of this Constitution. Any vacancy in the governing body due to death, resignation or any other reason shall be filled up by the remaining members of the Body for the balance term.

19 Income not to Revert:

The income of the Association from its property of donations or membership subscription derived shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Association as set out in its Memorandum of Association and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly to the persons who at any time are or have been members of the society or any person claiming through any of them.

20. Exclusion of Personal Responsibility:

No member of the Governing Body shall be answerable or personally liable for any loss arising from the administration or application of the funds and properties of the Association unless such loss or damage is caused through willful default or breach of trust or culpable negligence on his part.

21. Legal proceedings:

The Association may sue or be sued in the name of its General Secretary as required under Section 6 of SR Act of 1955.

22. Affiliation:

The Association shall be affiliated to a national level apex body of Pensioners' Associations, if/as decided by the Central Working Committee.

23. Dissolution:

In case the All India BSNL Pensioners' Welfare Association happens to be dissolved, its assets and funds shall, under any circumstances, not be distributed amongst its members, but shall, after meeting the liabilities, be transferred to any Association/ Organization with similar aims and objects or to the Government, as decided by the All India Conference.

24. Amendment to the Constitution:

This Constitution shall be amended only by the All India Conference supported by two third members present in the Conference. Any such amendment proposed to be moved in the Conference shall be notified at least one month in advance.

25. Interpretation:

The Central Working Committee shall have the power to interpret this Constitution, if needed, keeping in view the aims and objects of the Association.

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