



Regd. No. T1833/09

# ALL INDIA BSNL PENSIONERS' WELFARE ASSOCIATION

Central Head Quarters [ Regd. No. T 1833/09 ]

Identified & Registered under 'Pensioners Portal'

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Date: 8/07/2024

The Secretary,  
Department of Telecom,  
Sanchar Bhawan,  
20, Asoka Road,  
New Delhi-110001

Sir,

**Sub: Grant of one annual increment earned on the last day of their service for rendering services during the preceding one year from the date of retirement with good behavior and efficiently – reg**

- Ref: 1) our letter dated 17/01/2024  
2) DOPT ID No.19/4/2024-Pers.Policy, Pay (Promotion), dated 14/3/2024  
3) OA 310/00285/2021 before CAT, Madras  
4) OA No.293/2021 before CAT, Madras  
5) File No.2/3/2023-EC-IV(SC)/190-E dtd.20/2/2024 of CPWD  
6) SOO No.2024/JUT/Admn/03 & 04 dtd.8/3/224 of North Western Railway  
7) DRDO/DOP/Coord & Award/02/200069/M/01/222/D(R&D) dtd.8/3/2024, Ministry of Defence  
8) ASP/WP176/2019/dlgs dtd. 20/12/2023 of Dept. of Post, Namakkal Dvn  
9) EII/CAT/221 to 226/2022 dtd. 27/2/2024 of Dept. of Post. Bhavnagar Dvn

This is in addition to our earlier letter mentioned under Ref 1 (copy attached for ready reference) The above subject-matter is well known and needs no elaboration.

DOPT under reference 2 (C.P. No.12/2024 in OA No.310/00391/2021) para 2 states "DoT may please take cognizance of the position stated in paras 3 and 4 (of 11/3/24 ID note) and take action as deemed necessary in view thereof and with due regard to the judicial orders in the instant case".

Hon CAT, Madras in its order dated 29/10/2023 in OA No.310/00285/2021 (Reference No 3) stated "**the respondents are directed to consider and dispose of the claim of the applicants in the light of the decision of Hon Apex Court in**

**Civil Appeal No.2471 of 2023 (SLP© No.6185/2020 in the case of The Director, KPTCL & Ors Vs C P Mundianamani & Ors dated 11/4/2023”.**

The decision of the Apex Court on the above subject was implemented by various departments like **CPWD, Railways, Defence**. **Even the postal department which is under the Ministry of Communication has implemented and extended the benefits ( Reference 5 to 9)**

The pensioners who retired under “VRS 2019 scheme” filed petition before Hon CAT, Madras under OA No.293/2021 (Reference under 4). BSNL management rejected their claim stating that since they have gone on voluntary retirement, they are not similarly placed. This contention of the BSNL management is wrong because:

- a) Director (HR), BSNL corporate office on 23/11/2019 stated **“Some doubts have been expressed by some quarters of employees that VRS group will be treated as a separate group and will be dealt distinctly. Here, it is clarified that for BSNL employees, retirement on VRS (VRS 2019) is neither a distinct nor a separate group but will be at par with retirement on superannuation. Similarly, Industrial Dearness Relief on pension amount will also be available to VRS optees as is available to employees who are retiring on superannuation. Therefore, any such doubts are devoid of any merit”**
- b) Normally the employees who retire voluntarily have their own choice of date of retirement but under VRS-2019 scheme, the employees did not have the choice and all were struck off from the roll on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020
- c) Normal voluntary retirees are relieved on the forenoon of the date of retirement, chosen by the official. But all the officials who retired under VRS-2019 scheme were relieved on the afternoon of 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020


So, the employees who opted for VRS-2019 scheme should be treated at par with the retirees on superannuation and they are also entitled.

Since various departments including our sister organization of Department of Post (under our own Ministry) have honoured the judgement of the Apex Court atleast for those who sought ad got legal remedy for notional increment.

We request DoT also may take a positive decision to implement it atleast for those who sought and obtained legal order including those who retired under VRS-2019 scheme.

A line in reply is highly solicited.

Thanking you

Yours faithfully,  
  
(V Vara Prasad)  
General Secretary.

Encl: Copy of Ref 1 to 9