



ALL INDIA BHARAT SANCHAR NIGAM LIMITED RETIRED EXECUTIVES' ASSOCIATION

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No. AIBSNLREA/CHQ/2021/74

Date: 25th November 2021

To
Shri Indevar Pandey,
Secretary (Pension),
Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare,
New Delhi 110003.

Sub: Non-reimbursement of medical claims of BSNL Pensioners for the last three years since 2018-19 – Request for intervention in order to bring to end the sufferings of the pensioners.

Sir,

We are conscious of the fact that the Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare works with the vision of ensuring a life of dignity and respect for Central Government Pensioners. But with deep dismay and heavy heart, we would like to bring to your notice that the BSNL absorbed pensioners drawing pension from the Central Civil Estimates and covered by CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972 are not being treated with dignity or respect by the BSNL, the company they had served for decades and had put their heart and soul into building it.

2. BSNL pensioners have not been reimbursed their claims for medical expenses under BSNLMRS, both for outdoor and indoor treatments, for more than three years now, from the FY 2018-19 onwards. We have knocked the doors of every authority, including the office of the Prime Minister of India, during these three years, without any success. When these authorities forwarded our grievance to BSNL, the standard and unconcerned response from BSNL has been that payment will be made when funds are available. The utter disregard BSNL has been showing towards its retired employees can be understood from the fact that non-availability of funds has not prevented BSNL from reimbursing medical claims of its serving employees, with payment being made upto date.

3. BSNL, which was very recently found negotiating wage revision of its non-executive employees with the BSNL Unions/associations, despite the stated financial crunch, also cannot take the same plea to deny reimbursement of medical claims only of its retired employees.

4. We strongly feel that mere forwarding of this representation to BSNL by DoP&PW will not ensure resolution of this matter, unless DoP&PW takes up the plight of the BSNL pensioners with real seriousness, issues directions to BSNL and follows them up till final resolution. At a first step, let BSNL be made to commit itself with a concrete date in the near future for paying all the pending medical claims and stick to the commitment.

5. We therefore request that suitable directions be issued to BSNL to specify a date in the near future within which all the pending medical claims will be paid so as to ensure a real life of dignity and respect for the BSNL Pensioners.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,


(R.R. Balasubramanian) 25/11/21

Asst. General Secretary
For General Secretary

Copy to:

1. Shri K. Rajaraman,
Secretary, Telecom, DoT, New Delhi
2. Shri P.K. Purwar,
CMD, BSNL, New Delhi