



**ALL INDIA BHARAT SANCHAR NIGAM LIMITED  
RETIRED EXECUTIVES' ASSOCIATION**

**Central Headquarters**

**111, New Ashiana Apartments, Plot-10, Sector-6, Dwarka,  
New Delhi 110 075**

Website address: <http://aibsnlreachq.brinkster.net>

President: P D Shukla

General Secretary: S Basu

Financial Secretary: Hari Ram Bharti

No. AIBSNLREA/CHQ/2009/11

Dated, March 2, 2009

To

Smt Pratibha Patil,  
President of India,  
Rashtrapati Bhawan,  
New Delhi 110 001.

Subject: **Appeal to redress the genuine grievances of the Pensioners retired from Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited under Department of Telecommunications and stop their continued harassment.**

Hon'ble Madam,

On behalf of the members of the AIBSNLREA, I am compelled to encroach upon your valuable time to seek your kind intervention in the matter of denial of certain legitimate pensionary benefits to us by Department of Telecommunications under the Ministry of Communications. . We are the ex-employees of Department of Telecommunications who took absorption in Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) after its formation on conversion of Department of Telecom Operations and Department of Telecom Services into a Corporation on 1.10.2000. Now, we are the senior citizens of this great country. The Government has always been expressing its serious concern for the senior citizens and taking various measures for their welfare. Unfortunately, we are being treated very shabbily by Department of Telecommunications which issues our Pension Payment Orders (PPOs) and makes payment of pension. We were recruited by the Department of Telecommunications and we subsequently opted for absorption in BSNL, when the Government introduced Rule 37-A in CCS (Pension) Rules 1972 which assured payment of pension by the Government under the same Rules which are applicable to the Government Employees. Though payment of Pension is being done by various Controllers of Communication Account, the Department of Telecommunications is not extending the benefits which are also due to us as per the decisions/orders issued by the Government of India in regard to various benefits to be extended to the Government Pensioners. Our numerous representations to the Department of

Telecommunications and other concerned Departments have failed to bring any change in the attitude of the authorities concerned. We, therefore, find no alternative but to seek your kind intervention for getting our following grievances resolved:

- (1) **Non payment of benefit of merger of 50% of IDA to the BSNL Pensioners:** Government of India ordered merger of 50% of Dearness Allowance to its employees w. e. f. 01.04.2004. It also simultaneously ordered extension of benefit of merger of 50% of DA to its Pensioners with effect from the same date. But the Department of Telecommunications which ordered merger of 50% of IDA w. e. f. 01.01.2007 to the employees of BSNL did not extend the benefit to the pre-2007 BSNL pensioners. Subsequently, it asked for the approval of BSNL Board to bear part of expenditure under an internal arrangement between DOT and BSNL. Though BSNL Board cleared the position long back, DOT is still dragging its feet.
- (2) **Non extension of pensionary benefits to the BSNL pensioners as per the amendments introduced in CCS (Pension) Rules 1972 by the Government of India:** Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare, Government of India, has issued an Order No 38/37/08-P&PW(A) dated 02.09.2008 introducing amendments to various provisions in the CCS (Pension) Rules 1972. These amendments are effective from 01.01.2006. Since the pensionary benefits for the BSNL pensioners are decided in terms of the relevant provisions in CCS (Pension) Rules 1972, these amended provisions in the Rules including the one on Gratuity are to be implemented for the BSNL Pensioners. Unfortunately, in this case also, the Department of Telecommunications is dragging its feet.
- (3) **Revision of Pension of the pre-2007 pensioners from BSNL:** The revision of pension for those who retire from service before any revision of pay scales takes place in their parent Department is a must. The Hon'ble Supreme Court, in one of judgment last year, has ruled that pension has to be revised whenever there is a revision of pay scales. The Government of India issued orders for revision of pension for its past pensioners while issuing orders for revision of Pay Scales for Central Government Employees effective from 1.1.2006. Now Department of Telecommunications has issued Presidential Directive for revision of IDA Pay Scales for the BSNL Executives with effect from 1.1.2007, but no order has been issued for revision of pension of pre-2007 BSNL pensioners. Here also, the Department of Telecommunications is quite indifferent.
- (4) **Non payment of benefit of change in the rates of IDA w. e. f. 1.1.2009 to the BSNL Pensioners:** The rates of IDA undergo changes quarterly for the employees of CPSEs. The rates have changed again w. e. f. 1.1.2009. But the BSNL Pensioners are

being deprived of the benefit, since Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) has issued an order which is applicable only for the CPSEs in which revision of pay scales have been implemented. This takes care of only the serving employees. The BSNL pensioners are not getting their dues, since neither their pension is revised nor order for change of rates of IDA as per old neutralization system has been issued by DPE. Now, the BSNL pensioners in general and pre-2007 pensioners in particular even face the threat of reduction in pension payment till their pension is revised. To avoid the problem and to mitigate the hardships of BSNL pensioners, the Department of Public Enterprises needs to issue an order for change of IDA w. e. f. 1.1.2009 as per old system of neutralization. In this matter also, the Department of Telecommunications is found to be indifferent and has made no move with DPE to sort out the problem.

**2.** From the above, your kind honour may kindly appreciate that the BSNL pensioners are being really unfairly treated and the Department of Telecommunications is not showing any serious concern for its ex-employees who retired from BSNL. If this be the nature of concern that our authorities show for the welfare of the senior citizens during their twilight years in recognition of their long service to the Nation, God only have mercy on them. We, therefore, earnestly appeal to your kind honour to kindly intervene so that our genuine grievances are immediately redressed.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,



(S Basu)  
General Secretary

Copy to:

1. Smt Sonia Gandhi,  
Chairperson, UPA,
2. Dr Man Mohan Singh,  
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.
3. Shri A Raja,  
Hon'ble Minister of Communications & IT.
4. Shri Santosh Mohan Dev,  
Hon'ble Minister of HI & Public Enterprises.
5. Shri Prithviraj Chavan,  
Hon'ble Minister of State,  
Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.