



Editorial

THE YEAR 2016 THAT BECAME A PART OF THE HISTORY - A PEEP IN TO THE PAST

The year 2016, is also now part of the history. From the pensioners' point of view, one may like to recall the important events that took place during the past one year and also some other issues which are still beyond their reach.

The Government announced its decision on the various recommendations of 7th Central Pay Commission for the CG employees and its pensioners. As BSNL IDA pensioners, covered under CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972, our attention was concentrated on those decisions which brought changes in the pension rules and pensionary benefits. Unlike 6th Central Pay Commission, the 7th Central Pay Commission did not recommend many changes in the rules. Only notable change was in respect of payment of gratuity. The Government accepted the recommendation of 7th CPC and enhanced the limit from Rs.10 lakhs to Rs.20 lakhs w.e.f. 1.1.2016. It also accepted the recommendation that "the ceiling on gratuity may increase by 25 percent whenever DA rises by 50 percent". We are happy to state that it was AIBSNLREA which, in its memorandum to VII CPC, suggested not only to raise the ceiling limit of gratuity to Rs.30 lakh but also pleaded for periodical review of ceiling limit due to

increase in DA and the VII CPC accepted our request. However, the benefit is yet to be extended to the BSNL IDA pensioners pending an unwarranted clarification from DOP&PW due to insistence by DOT Finance Wing – though such clarification was already available with DOT when similar doubt was raised on the same issue during implementation of VI CPC recommendations. Similarly, though linkage of 33 years of qualifying service for full pension has been dispensed with even for BSNL IDA pensioners, another important Order of DOP&PW regarding "revision of pension of pre-2006 pensioners – delinking of revised pension from qualifying service of 33 years" is yet to be implemented to the BSNL IDA Pensioners. Here also DOT has sought a clarification from DOP&PW.

The year 2016, also saw the Order issued by DOT to allow fitment benefit by merger of 78.2% notionally with effect from 1.1.2007 with actual benefit with effect from 10.06.2013 for revision of pension to the BSNL IDA pensioners who retired between 1.1.2007 and 09.06.2013. This decision has put the affected BSNL IDA pensioners in a huge loss of their money. But some people showed their ugly faces by

going for wild celebration for this Order and calling this as their victory. Now a section within this group is adding salt to the wounded souls of the affected pensioners by declaring that they would take up their cause with the court. There could not be any better example of hypocrisy than this, since these people alone supported DOT's move to term the benefit as "notional" and thereby deny the arrears. It appears that here also they are working as the agent of DOT to sabotage the case. So far as AIBSNLREA is concerned, it was preparing itself to seek legal remedy against the injustice meted out to the BSNL pensioners/family pensioners by denying them the benefit of arrears w.e.f. 1.1.2007. It was readying itself for this since long and even its Bhubaneswar AIC gave its seal of approval for this. True to its commitment, AIBSNLREA will shortly move the court of law with full preparation and justifications to seek justice. The Association is confident to get the whole hearted support of all right thinking affected absorbed BSNL pensioners/family pensioners.

BSNL issued an Order in April, 2016 for grant of one notional increment @ 3% of the existing basic pay for fixation of pay on promotion w.e.f. 1.1.2007 to the Executives. AIBSNLREA immediately took up the issue for immediate implementation of the Order. BSNL on its part issued an order that while calculating pay notionally in case of BSNL IDA pensioners/family pensioners who retired between 1.1.2007 to 9.6.2013, it may be ensured to grant notional increment @ 3% of the existing basic pay for fixation of pay on promotion w.e.f. 1.1.2007 as was clarified vide BSNL No. 1-05/2015-PAT(BSNL) dated

04.04.2016. This ensured proper fixation of pay and pension of the BSNL IDA pensioners/family pensioners who retired between 1.1.2007 and 9.6.2013. No other Association had taken up this issue.

DOT also issued an Order stating that Government takes entire pension liability of the absorbed BSNL pensioners/family pensioners. In fact, Government was bearing the pension liability of the absorbed MTNL pensioners who were granted pension by the Government by an order issued in 2013. Thus, a discrimination was got removed and a cause of delay for settlement of pension revision cases of absorbed BSNL pensioners was also withdrawn.

Department of Personnel & Training, vide its F.No. 18/03/2015-Estt.(Pay.I) dated 02.03.2016, issued an order instructing all Departments to deal with the issue of wrongful/excess payments made to Government servants in pursuance to a decision of Hon'ble Supreme Court in 2014 specifically pointing out to the situations where payments have mistakenly been made by the employer in excess of their entitlement, wherein recoveries by the employers would be impermissible in law. DOP&T further advised the Departments that "wherever the waiver of recovery in the above-mentioned situations is considered, the same may be allowed with the express approval of Department of expenditure". But the said order was not being implemented for BSNL employees/pensioners. It is again AIBSNLREA which took up the matter and BSNL also issued detailed guidelines regarding recovery of excess/wrongful

payments made to employees of BSNL vide its No. 1-06/2016-PAT(BSNL) dated 09.09.2016. As a result, all such past cases, which fall under the given situations as specified in DOP&T Orders, could be re-examined and decisions taken regarding waiver of recovery with the final approval of Department of Expenditure. Thus, the scope for justice to the victims of wrong orders of the Department has enhanced and an area in which the employees used to face harassment came to an end.

The year 2016 also saw an order issued by DOT extending the CGHS facility to the retired BSNL pensioners. Detailed Orders have been issued regarding ward entitlement and contribution. BSNL has issued an Order that it would reimburse the contribution to be made by the pensioners who switch over to CGHS facilities. Thus an option is now available to the BSNL pensioners either to opt for BSNL MRS or CGHS according to their convenience.

Recommendations of 3rd Pay Revision Committee for CPSE Executives and the

decision of DOT for revision of pay scales and fitment benefits to the BSNL Executives have some bearing on absorbed BSNL pensioners for revision of their pension. Meanwhile, BSNL has issued an Order constituting a Wage Review Committee for the non-Executive employees of BSNL. However, no guidelines have been issued pending detailed guidelines from DPE. All these will have some bearing in next pension revision of absorbed BSNL pensioners/family pensioners.

On the last day of the year 2016, the Prime Minister has announced that a new deposit scheme up to Rs 7.5 lakhs for a period of 10 years with 8% interest payable monthly will be introduced for the senior citizens. But the pensioners want some real relief in Income Tax which was not available in 2016-17 budget.

The year 2016 would also be remembered for long since we had a very successful and eventful All India Conference of AIBSNLREA at Bhubaneswar in Odisha. []

MEETING WITH GENERAL MANAGER (ADMN), BSNL CO

AIBSNLREA had a meeting with Shri S K Sinha, General Manager (Admn), BSNL Corporate Office at his chamber on 21.12.2016 to have a preliminary discussion on the issues which the Association had included as agenda items for discussion in its letter dated 16.08.2016 to Director (HR) with a request for granting a meeting [View posting dated 18.08.2016 in this website to read the letter]. This meeting was held by GM (Admn) on the advice of Director (HR) who desired that if the issues still remain unresolved, she will grant another meeting. Earlier to this meeting, the Association met Dy. GM (Estt), BSNL C.O. to ascertain the progress of few cases. Following is the status, mostly as discussed in the meeting, in respect of the issues taken up:

01. ISSUE OF IDENTITY CARDS TO THE BSNL PENSIONERS AS PER FORMAT ISSUED BY DOP&PW BY LINKING AADHAR CARD: General Manager (Admn) appreciated our concern and stated that the matter pertains to Establishment Branch and to be considered by that Branch. Earlier, Dy

General Manager (Estt) had informed us that a comprehensive proposal in the matter has been sent by BSNL to DOT so that Pensioners' Identity Cards as per a revised format and linking Aadhar Numbers, as ordered by DOP&PW, could be issued.

02. SANCTION OF MOBILE CONNECTION IN LIEU OF CONCESSIONAL RESIDENTIAL LANDLINE CONNECTION TO THE RETIRED BSNL EMPLOYEES: It was stated in the meeting that a proposal to sanction mobile connection in lieu of concessional landline connection to the retired BSNL employees in the non-feasible areas is under process and a decision is expected early.

03. RAISING THE FREE CALL LIMIT IN CONCESSIONAL RESIDENTIAL LANDLINE CONNECTION TO THE RETIRED BSNL EMPLOYEES: The representatives of the Association was told that a proposal to allow free night calling facility to the retired employees is now under active consideration. This will take care of the demand to increase the free call limit.

04. EXTENSION OF CONCESSIONAL BROADBAND FACILITY TO THE RETIRED BSNL EMPLOYEES RESIDING IN MTNL AREAS: The Association reiterated its request that the retired BSNL employees residing in MTNL areas be also extended the same "monetary equivalent of the concession of Rs. 150/- per month" for broadband connections as allowed to the serving BSNL employees. GM (Admn) advised the Association to send a comprehensive proposal in this regard for examination.

05. RESTORATION OF BENEFIT OF MEDICAL ALLOWANCE FOR OUTDOOR TREATMENT WITHOUT VOUCHER TO THE RETIRED BSNL EMPLOYEES: The Association was informed that SR Branch has also recommended the case. A detailed proposal in this regard has already been prepared and sent to Establishment Branch for further examination.

06. PROBLEMS FACED BY THE RETIRED BSNL EMPLOYEES IN GETTING THEIR CLAIMS FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF MEDICAL BILLS SETTLED ON TIME: GM (Admn) stated that the CGMs are being advised from time to time to settle the medical claims of the pensioners without delay. The Association thanked the administration for the same and also said that despite all these instructions, the claims are not being settled in time. GM (Admn) said that a web based program to know the status of pending bills which is proposed to be introduced might reduce this problem. The Association stated that CGM, ITPC Pune is yet to start field trial of the same and had informed the representatives of their Pune Branch that a prototype was sent to Corporate Office for approval and also clearance was sought for to start the field trial. GM (Admn) confirmed this and further informed that the cost of the server for the purpose has been estimated to be over Rupees one crore. Therefore, the CGM, ITPC Pune has been requested to rework on the program. The Association also brought to the notice of the GM (Admn) that it was reported by its West Bengal Branch that the medical claims of the pensioners which were being processed through ERP system has suddenly been stopped purportedly on the instruction of ERP Development Centre at Ghaziabad. It was assured to look into the matter. In regard to request of the Association for timely allotment and release of funds to the Circles, the Association was advised to take up the matter with Budget section.

07. ABNORMAL DELAY IN ISSUE OF PRESIDENTIAL ORDER FOR ABSORPTION OF THE RETIRED EXECUTIVES ON FINALIZATION OF THEIR DISCIPLINARY/VIGILANCE CASES: The Association was informed that the matter pertains to Vigilance/SR Section and the position can better be obtained from these sections. However, earlier on the day the Association gathered the information direct from STG.II section of DOT that the case for giving clearance for issue of Presidential Order for absorption in BSNL in respect S/Shri B S Patel, Retd SDE, B I Bhatt, Retd SDE, and M G Malek, Retd SDE, all from Gujarat Telecom Circle, is under process and awaiting the approval of DDG concerned. SR section of BSNL would do the needful on receipt of the clearance from DOT. Since the matter is in the final stage of settlement, the Association did not press further.

ISSUES TAKEN UP

ISSUE OF IDENTITY CARDS TO THE ABSORBED BSNL IDA PENSIONERS IN THE REVISED FORMAT LINKING AADHAR NUMBERS AS PRESCRIBED BY DOP&PW - AIBSNLREA AGAIN TAKES UP THE MATTER WITH SECRETARY (PENSION): AIBSNLREA has again represented to Secretary (Pension) requesting his intervention for implementation of DOP&PW OM dated 12.08.2015, prescribing a revised format and linking Aadhar number for issue of identity cards to the pensioners, to the absorbed BSNL IDA pensioners who draw their pension under CCS (Pension) Rules 1972. [\[View posting dated 19.12.2016 in this website to read the letter\].](#)

16.12.2016 AIBSNLREA REPRESENTS TO PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA ON THE ISSUE OF PAYMENT OF ENHANCED GRATUITY TO THE ABSORBED BSNL IDA PENSIONERS AS ORDERED BY DOP&PW FOLLOWING ACCEPTANCE OF VII CPC RECOMMENDATIONS TOGETHER WITH INTEREST FOR DELAYED PAYMENT: AIBSNLREA has represented to Prime Minister of India requesting his intervention on the above issue since Department of Telecommunication is not making payment of enhanced gratuity effective from 1.1.2016 to the absorbed BSNL IDA pensioners as per the OM dated 4.8.2016 issued by Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare following acceptance of VII CPC recommendations, despite already having a clear clarification of the rule position on the subject. The clarification was given to DOT when it referred the issue of applicability of DOP&PW OM dated 2.9.2008, similarly enhancing the limit of DCRG and other benefits following acceptance of VI CPC recommendations, to the absorbed BSNL IDA pensioners. The Association has demanded payment of gratuity w.e.f. 1.1.2016 together with interest for delayed payment to the eligible BSNL IDA pensioners. [\[View posting dated 16.12.2016 in this website to read the letter\].](#)

NON-COMPLIANCE OF BSNL'S ORDER CIRCULATING DETAILED GUIDELINES FOR REVISION OF PENSION OF ABSORBED BSNL PENSIONERS IN UDAIPUR SSA OF RAJASTHAN TELECOM CIRCLE - AIBSNLREA TAKES UP THE ISSUE: AIBSNLREA has taken up the above issue with Director (HR), BSNL requesting her to advise the concerned authorities in Rajasthan to strictly comply with the instructions as contained in the BSNL Order dated 17.08.2016 for revision of pension of the BSNL IDA pensioners who retired prior to 10.06.2016 so that the concerned pensioners get their

revised pension on time. The matter has been taken up since it was reported that Udaipur TD was lagging in processing the pension revision cases [\[View posting dated 13.12.2016 in this website to read the letter\]](#).

AIBSNLREA WRITES TO DIRECTOR (HR), BSNL REGARDING NON-EMPANELMENT OF FULLY EQUIPPED SPECIALY PRIVATE HOSPITALS FOR INDOOR TREATMENT IN UDAIPUR TD OF RAJASTHAN TELECOM CIRCLE: AIBSNLREA has since addressed a letter, vide its No. AIBSNLREA/CHQ/2016/65 dated 13.12.2016, to Director (HR), BSNL urging her intervention for empanelment of fully equipped private Hospitals with availability of specialist Doctors for indoor treatment in Udaipur SSA of Rajasthan Telecom Circle [\[View posting dated 13.12.2016 in this website to read the letter\]](#).

ACTION ON AIBSNLREA'S REPRESENTATIONS

DOT SENDS THE REPORT RECEIVED FROM BSNL ON THE REPRESENTATION OF AIBSNLREA FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF DOP&T INSTRUCTIONS TO DEAL WITH THE CASES FOR WAIVER OF EXCESS/WRONGFUL PAYMENTS MADE TO THE BSNL EMPLOYEES: It may be recalled that AIBSNLREA, in the background of the DOP&T OM dated 2.3.2016 that was issued following Supreme Court judgment in which it declared recovery of excess/wrongful payments in certain specific cases impermissible in law, took up the matter with Secretary, DOP&T and others including CMD, BSNL for its implementation in BSNL. In its representation, AIBSNLREA cited the case of Shri R Damodaran, Retired SDE and Branch Secretary of AIBSNLREA's Coimbatore Branch from whom over Rs 80,000/- was recovered on the eve of his retirement after 12 years of making the payment. Thereafter, BSNL issued detailed guidelines to deal with the cases for excess/wrongful payments to the employees of BSNL [\[View posting dated 12.09.2016 in this website to read more\]](#). Now BSNL has sent a reply to this Association, which has been forwarded by DOT's PG Cell, wherein BSNL has enclosed a copy of the Guidelines issued by it on the subject and has stated that "The concerned employee may be advised to represent his case to the office from where he retired". [\[View posting dated 23.12.2016 in this website to read the DOT/BSNL letter\]](#)

BSNL WEST BENGAL CIVIL ZONE RESPONDS TO AIBSNLREA'S REPRESENTATION TO SECRETARY (PENSION) ABOUT INACTION OF DOT TO RESTORE THE BENEFIT OF 2ND ACP WRONGLY WITHDRAWN FROM SOME SDEs (CIVIL) OF WEST BENGAL CIRCLE: AIBSNLREA had earlier addressed a letter, vide its No. AIBSNLREA/CHQ/2016/18 dated 09.05.2016, to Secretary (Pension), DoP&PW about the inaction of Department of Telecommunications to restore the benefit of 2nd ACP granted to some retired Executives of Civil Wing, BSNL, West Bengal Circle [\[View posting dated 10.05.2016 in this website to read the letter\]](#). The Association had asserted in its letter that these executives were rightly granted the benefit of 2nd ACP in accordance with the rules, but subsequently the benefit was withdrawn unjustifiably. Now BSNL West Bengal Civil Zone, Kolkata has sent a reply which serves no purpose. AIBSNLREA will again take up the issue

at the highest level [\[View posting dated 10.12.2016 in this website to read the BSNL WB Civil Zone letter\]](#)

GOVERNMENT/BSNL ORDERS

BSNL ENDORSES DOT LETTER DATED 22.8.2016 CIRCULATING DOP&PW LETTER DATED 4.8.2016 REGULATING PENSION/GRATUITY/COMMUTATION OF PENSION/FAMILY PENSION/DISABILITY PENSION/EX-GRATIA LUMP SUM COMPENSATION ETC. AND REVISION OF PENSION OF PRE-2016 PENSIONERS/FAMILY PENSIONERS ETC FOR NECESSARY ACTION : BSNL has finally endorsed the DoT letter dated 22.8.2016 circulating DoP&PW letter dated 4.8.2016 for revision of provisions regulating pension/gratuity/commutation of pension/family pension/disability pension/ex-gratia lumpsum compensation etc., and revision of pension of pre-2016 pensioners/family pensioners etc. for information and necessary action by the circles/units. This follows the discussion that AIBSNLREA had with the concerned BSNL Officer who agreed with our request to endorse the DOT letter as was reported earlier in this website on 4.11.2016. [\[View posting dated 24.12.2016 in this website to read the BSNL Order\]](#)

FAMILY OF DECEASED GOVERNMENT SERVANT ELIGIBLE TO CLAIM TRAVELING ALLOWANCE BEYOND ONE YEAR PERIOD OF DEATH OF THE EMPLOYEE: Department of Expenditure (Ministry of Finance) vide its OM No. 19016/1/2015-E.IV dated 21.12.2016 has clarified that the family of the deceased Government servant may also be eligible to claim Traveling Allowance beyond one year time limit period with the approval of the FA of the concerned Ministry as provided under the GOI decision 2(iii) below Rule SR-147. [\[View posting dated 24.12.2016 in this website to read the DOE OM\]](#)

BRANCHES IN ACTION

MUMBAI BRANCH OF AIBSNLREA HELD ITS G B MEETING: AIBSNLREA, Mumbai Branch held a General Body meeting in the Conference Hall of Telephone House, Prabhadevi, Dadar (West) on 14.12.2016 at 14.00 hours under the president ship of Shri K R Gupta who also welcomed the members. Shri S P Varma, Branch Secretary reported the house about the sad demise of the wife of Shri K R Gupta, Branch President and expressed gratitude to Shri Gupta for attending the meeting despite this tragic loss. The house also observed two minutes silence in memory of the departed soul. Shri Varma further reported that along with seven other members he visited the offices of different units to pursue the revision of pension with fitment benefit by merger of 78.2% IDA. WTR has completed more than 80% of the work, but in Maharashtra Circle progress is slow and efforts are being made to complete the work at the earliest. He also reported about the successful tour arranged by Shri S N Verma to visit Guwahati (Kamakshya Temple and other places), Shillong and Kolkata. He also appealed to the members not to be misled by the propaganda being made by another association regarding court case on pension arrears etc. He requested to go through the write up in AIBSNLREA site on this issue. He welcomed Shri N Sadacharam for enrolling himself as the Life Member. Smt Vijayalakshmi Memon highlighted

some specific problems. Branch Secretary assured to take up those issues with appropriate authorities. The meeting concluded after presentation of vote of thanks by Shri S N Verma.

GENERAL BODY MEETING OF AIBSNLREA, YAMUNA NAGAR HELD: A General Body Meeting of AIBSNLREA Yamuna Nagar (Haryana) branch was held on 25.12.2016 at Gopal Restaurant under the president ship of Shri MCK Mittal. Nineteen members attended the meeting and three new retired executives were enrolled as life members. The Branch Secretary Shri S L Purey reported about the activities of the branch. The case for extending the fitment benefits by merger of 78.2% IDA is being pursued vigorously with the concerned authorities. Revised PPOs in many cases have already been issued. Remaining cases are being pursued vigorously for speedy disposal. The members were eager to know the status of PRC.

GUJARAT STATE BRANCH OF AIBSNLREA HELD A MEETING: Gujarat State Branch of AIBSNLREA held a get-together cum Pensioners' day celebration meeting on 23rd December, 2016 at 15-00 Hrs in Ahmedabad medical Association Hall, Ahmedabad. Total 250 members attended the meeting and 13 new members joined the Association taking the total life membership to 916. The meeting started with lightening of lamp and prayer by Shri B. C. Chauhan. The house then observed two minutes silence in memory of departed members and also some family members. Two Doctors from Apollo Hospital graced the occasion as Guests who were honoured by presentation of bouquets. Then Chief Guest Dr. Hasit Joshi, a cardiac surgeon gave his presentation regarding B.P. and cardiac care. The Guest of Honour Dr. Hrutij Bhatt gave presentation on backache and spindle care. State President Shri P.B.Parmar presided over the meeting. In his welcome speech, he informed that against the target of 1000 membership, the State Branch could add only 60 members during the period after last meeting. He briefed the House about the action taken by State branch after issue of orders for 78.2% IDA merger and the efforts made to settle the individual problems of the members. State Secretary Shri A.B.Patel presented his brief report on the activity of the State branch, latest position of the revision of pension work as on 22nd December, 2016 and also about the cases taken during the period, He further requested for the donation. Vice president Shri. D. M. Patel spoke regarding the message received from an association regarding court case on 78.2% IDA merger issue and asking to sign "Vakalatnama" which is unwarranted. Then Shri B.M. Bhavsar, Organizing Secretary (West), CHQ addressed the house. He informed about the 3rd PRC and other issues. Shri R.M.Nayi, Asstt. Finance Secretary presented his vote of thanks. On this occasion AIBSNLREA News, was released. The meeting was followed by dinner.

GENERAL BODY MEETING OF AIBSNLREA, LUCKNOW BRANCH HELD: A General Body meeting of AIBSNLREA, Lucknow Branch was held on 23.12.2016 in the Recreation Club at Kaiserbagh Telephone Exchange under the President ship of Shri Jagdish Prasad. Forty nine members attended the meeting and three new retired executives were enrolled as Life members. Branch Secretary Shri S P Singh reported about the activities of the branch during the last four months. After the issue of order from BSNL Corporate office on 17.8.2016 for extending the fitment benefit by merger of 78.2% IDA, Branch Secretary, Branch President, Financial Secretary,

Organising Secretary and other active members have repeatedly visited CGMT, PGM TD, GM MS, GM NC, NTR, NTP and CCA offices and relentlessly pursued the matter. As a result, more than 30 members of Lucknow Branch have already received their revised PPOs and even one of the members of the Branch has received his revised pension also. In addition, members of the in remote SSAs viz., Barabanki, Bahraich, Lakhimpur, Shahjahanpur, Sultanpur, Raibareilly, Ballia have perused the cases with their respective SSAs. As a result, the revised pension papers for Pre-2007 and Post -2007 retirees are being received by the CCA Office and the work at CCA office is going on smoothly. State Secretary Shri R S Arora appreciated the activities of Lucknow Branch. He apprised the members about the development in CHQ regarding meeting held by General Secretary with GM(Admn). He also read out the views of General Secretary on court case issue. State Financial Secretary Shri Ambika Singh told that he pursued with Director, Postal Services, Lucknow for further endorsement of the orders of CCA to its Head Post offices so that the revised pension and arrears payment are not delayed to those pensioners who draw their pension from post offices. The meeting concluded with vote of thanks presented by the Branch President.

AIBSNLREA CHENNAI BRANCH GENERAL BODY MEETING HELD: A General Body Meeting of AIBSNLREA Chennai Branch was held on 11.12.2016 under the Presidentship of Shri M.Sankarasubbu, a senior member of the Branch. Shri R.R.Balasubramanian, Asst. Secretary welcomed the gathering. After Presidential address by Shri M.Sankarasubbu, a brief report on activities was submitted by the Asst. Secretary, since Shri L.Sundararaman, the Secretary has gone abroad. The report mainly covered the present status regarding issue of revised PPO by CCA Tamilnadu on pension revision with 78.2% fitment benefit. Shri S.Ratnasubramanian, AGS then spoke on issues like delinking of 33 years of qualifying service for revision of pension of pre-2006 pensioners, issue of identity card in the format prescribed by DoP&PW, anomaly in pension revision for those who retired during the first ten months after formation of BSNL on 1.10.2000 and CHQ's appeal to members not to fall prey to SMS from a group asking for money and wakalatnama. Then Dr.A.Chandrasekaran, MS Ortho., PhD, a senior Surgeon who was HOD of SRMC Porur for nearly 25 years, delivered guest lecture on 'Geriatric Care', but his lecture mostly covered dos and don'ts in the face of unethical medical practices. The participants had lively interaction with the Surgeon on various health issues and were full of praise for the Surgeon's social outlook and enjoyed his lecture and subsequent interaction. The meeting ended with Vote of Thanks by the Asst. Secretary.

GENERAL BODY MEETING OF AMBALA BRANCH OF AIBSNLREA HELD: A General Body meeting of Ambala Branch of AIBSNLREA was held on 9.12.2016 at Food Court Restaurant under the chairmanship of Shri P C Chauhan, Branch President. 24 members attended the meeting. Two new life members were also enrolled in Ambala Branch. Shri K L Gakhar, Asstt Branch Secretary conducted the meeting and briefed the members about the latest status of the cases for revision of pension due to merger of 78.2% IDA in Circle office and Ambala SSA. He informed that about 70% of the cases from Circle office and Ambala SSA have already been sent to CCA for issue of revised PPOs. He further informed that he is continuously pursuing the matter with concerned authorities for speedy disposal. The meeting was followed by lunch.

EAST GODAVARI BRANCH OF AIBSNLREA HELD ITS BI ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING: Bi-annual General Body meeting of East Godavari District Branch of AIBSNLREA was held at Hotel Surya at 10-00hrs on 06-12-2016 under the chairmanship of Shri GV Rama Krishna, Branch President. 85 members attended the meeting. After prayer, the House observed two minutes silence to pay homage to Late Shri Ch Satyanarayana SDE (Retd), Kumari Jayalalitha, Chief Minister of Tamilnadu on her sad demise, and also to Shri BR Ambedakar on his 60th anniversary. Shri Vara Prasad GSVSS submitted his report and Shri Naidu KBS presented the audited balance sheet to the house. After their approval, the old body was dissolved and a new body was elected. Shri John Crisostam, Sr GMTD EG District graced the function along with other DGMs. After the National Anthem, the house was adjourned for Lunch [\[View posting dated 09.12.2016 in this website for the detailed report of the meeting, list of office bearers, photographs and list of pension revision cases processed\]](#)

GENERAL BODY MEETING OF KURUKSHETRA BRANCH OF AIBSNLREA HELD: General Body meeting of the Kurukshetra Branch (Haryana) was held in Neelkanthi Yatri Niwas on 5.12.2016 under the chairmanship of Shri D S Sandhu. Discussions on following points were initiated by the Branch Secretary and discussed by the members present in the meeting:- (1). Latest information on pay fixation and pension revision of all members was conveyed as received from SSA Karnal having paid a visit in person by the Branch Secretary. President Shri D S Sandhu also spoke to CCA Haryana at Ambala who assured completion of all cases by 31st December, 2016. Most of the cases of pre-2007 pensioners are finalized and PPOs have also been issued. (2) Regarding appeal by one association for donation to initiate and plead a legal case for denied arrears, members were requested not to be misled and wait for the directions by our CHQ. (3). Some medical bill cases and also leave encashment discrepancies were discussed and decided to be taken up with SSA Karnal (4). Since the last Branch body was formed on 24.9-2013, it was decided to form a new body by conducting fresh election. After dissolution of old Body, Shri D S Sandhu was authorized to conduct fresh election. Adopting due procedures, nominations and election a new set of Office Bearers was declared unanimously. Eleven new members also joined the Association [\[View posting dated 09.12.2016 in this website for the List of new office bearers\]](#).

GENERAL BODY MEETING OF AIBSNLREA, WEST BENGAL STATE BRANCH HELD: A general body meeting of AIBSNLREA, West Bengal State Branch was held on 26.11.2016 at CTO Hall, Kolkata under the chairmanship of Shri S.K.Maitra, State President. There was a record gathering of 300 members overflowing the capacity of the hall. Before start of the meeting, a brief cultural function was arranged in which a few members of the Association and two working executives participated. The GB took up the regular agenda items at 3 PM which started by observing one minute silence to pay homage to the departed leaders Shri Dipen Ghosh and one of our member Shri Naba kumar Saha. Shri S.R.Palit, State Secretary welcomed all the participants and wished them season's Greetings and placed his report before the house. Shri K P Ghosh, Jt. State Secretary placed the status report on implementation of 78.2% fitment benefit at various BSNL units and CCA offices. Thereafter Shri Debasis Mitra, State Organizing Secretary discussed the organizational aspects in brief. Five members participated in the discussion of which Shri Badal

Halder opposed the stated court case by some group and requested the members not to sign on any papers sent by them. State Secretary in his reply appraised the house regarding the activities of the Association and elaborately discussed the scope and limitation of the Pensioners' organizations. He also criticized the role of the working Executives' Association in the matter of BSNL Pensioners' legitimate demands. He also appealed to the members not to fall prey to the mischievous propaganda of any group. He told that though the work on 78.2% fitment benefit is slow and sluggish in some of the units, the Association is vigorously pursuing the issue with concerned BSNL Units and CCA authorities and may even go for organizational action, if needed. Eight new members were enrolled in the meeting. Light refreshment was also served in the meeting which was sponsored by S/Shri Sunil Chandra Paul and Prakash Chakraborty, Members of the Branch. The meeting was concluded with vote of thanks to the chair [\[View posting dated 03.12.2016 in this website for the Report of the State Secretary and photographs\]](#).

STATEMENT OF AMOUNT RECEIVED FROM INDIVIDUALS/BRANCHES DURING DECEMBER 2016

Ambala Branch (Haryana State) has deposited Rupees four hundred (Rs. 400/-) only in the Savings Bank Account of the Association with Syndicate Bank on 29.12.2016 towards quota for two new life members.

Faridabad Branch (Haryana State) has deposited Rupees two thousand six hundred (Rs. 2600/-) only in the Savings Bank Account of the Association with Syndicate Bank on 27.12.2016 towards quota for thirteen new life members.

Yamuna Nagar Branch (Haryana State) has deposited Rupees three thousand two hundred (Rs. 3200/-) only in the Savings Bank Account of the Association with Syndicate Bank on 26.12.2016 towards quota for sixteen new life members.

Kurukshetra Branch (Haryana State) has deposited Rupees two thousand two hundred (Rs. 2200/-) only in the Savings Bank Account of the Association with Syndicate Bank on 24.12.2016 towards quota for eleven new life members.

East Godavari Branch (AP State) has deposited Rupees Six hundred (Rs. 600/-) only in the Savings Bank Account of the Association with Karur Vyshya Bank on 13.12.2016 towards quota for three new life members.

Shri Jamshed Ali, Life Member of Delhi South West Branch has deposited Rupees three hundred (Rs. 300/-) only in the Saving Bank Account of the Association with Syndicate Bank on 08.12.2016 towards admission fee and donation.

Edited and published by Shri S Basu, General Secretary, AIBSNLREA