



Editorial

BEATING AROUND THE BUSH

The proposal for pay scales revision of the BSNL Executives in the lines of 3rd Pay Revision Committee recommendations, which was sent to Department of Telecommunication by BSNL after it was approved by the BSNL Board, is yet to get the nod of DOT i.e. the administrative Department of BSNL. It seems that since an 'affordability' clause is linked with Pay scales revision, the DOT is taking cautious steps. It is said that BSNL's proposal has already suggested certain measures to absorb the additional expenditure involved in implementation of the revised Pay Scales. However, there is no reason to consider this 'affordability' clause as a stumbling block to allow the proposal of BSNL for revision of pay scales of its executives. It is no secret that during the last pay revision in 2007, the same DOT cleared the proposal for revision of IDA pay scales of MTNL Executives with 30% fitment benefit w.e.f. 1.1.2007 – even though MTNL was a chronic loss making CPSE for decades and the affordability clause existed then too. Moreover, while approving a proposal for payment of pension to the MTNL employees by the Government, the Cabinet decided to bring parity in pay scales of BSNL and MTNL Executives since MTNL pay scales are higher than that of BSNL. Department of Telecommunications, while communicating the decision regarding sharing of the liability for the payment of pensionary benefits to the MTNL employees, had clearly stated in its Order that at the

time of next wage revision MTNL and BSNL will achieve pay scale parity by bringing down the pay scales of MTNL to the level of BSNL pay scales. Since the pay scales of MTNL Executives cannot be brought down, the revision of pay scales of BSNL Executives is the only option left now to bring the pay scale parity in view of the said cabinet decision. Further, MTNL Board is said to have approved a proposal for merger of MTNL and BSNL which is now under consideration of DOT. Therefore this is the right time to revise the pay scales of BSNL executives and thereby bring parity in pay scales of BSNL and MTNL Executives.

Unfortunately, there appears to be great confusion among the direct stake holders of the issue. Even before the pay scale proposal was conceived by BSNL and sent to DOT for approval, a message was spread that DOT has not agreed to revise the pay scales and a series of agitation was launched. In the process, two-days strike, the highest form of agitation was organised. Since there was no response from the administration, now a series of low profile protests are being observed. This is certainly a new approach. All these years, trade union protests started with demonstrations, dharnas and culminated in strike. But taking up hard stand first and then lowering the form of protest is a new trend in BSNL.

It seems that these stake holders are beating

around the bush and have included a number of other issues in their agenda to attract one and all. Revision of pension is another issue which they want to get right now. But they conveniently forget that without pay revision, there cannot be any pension revision as per the law of the land. Settlement of Pension revision w.e.f. 1.1.2007 for BSNL pensioners has set the precedence and therefore once Pay Scale revision is settled, pension revision will follow. No one can stop this. The reduction of retirement age is another big issue raised by them. But it is said that no such proposal is under consideration at any level. Another demand is rolling back the creation of subsidiary Tower Company. Formation of tower company as a subsidiary of BSNL was on the cards since the year 2014. No serious effort was made earlier by these

stakeholders to put pressure on DoT/Government against formation of a separate subsidiary tower company. The Cabinet, on 12.9.2017, gave its nod for hiving off mobile tower assets of BSNL into a separate company, fully owned by BSNL. BSNL Tower Corporation Limited has been registered on 4.1.2018 and Shri Amit Yadav, Jt. Secretary DoT has been appointed as CMD of the new company. The Government/DoT continues to maintain that formation of separate tower company is solely aimed at a dedicated tower business and higher revenue.

Our concern is that in the crowded list of demands, the main issue of revision of pay scales is getting diluted and getting lost. This is unfortunate. ■

ISSUES TAKEN UP

AIBSNLREA URGES PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA TO INTERVENE IN THE MATTER OF PAYMENT OF PENSION CONTRIBUTION TO DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATION IN RESPECT OF PERMANENTLY ABSORBED BSNL AND MTNL EMPLOYEES WHO ARE NO MORE GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ON DEPUTATION/FOREIGN SERVICE UNDER SUB-RULE 4 OF RULE 37-A OF CCS (PENSION RULES), 1972: AIBSNLREA draws the attention of the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India to a case wherein in violation of the spirit of the Fundamental Rules laid down by the Government regarding payment of pension contribution under FR-116 in respect of its employees posted to other Organizations on deputation/foreign service basis, pension contribution is being asked for in respect of its erstwhile employees who are now permanently absorbed in BSNL/MTNL and consequently who ceased to be Government servants under Sub-Rule 4 of CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972. The Association submits that this has caused BSNL/MTNL to face acute financial crisis. The Association further states that the Department of Telecommunication is also sitting over a proposal sent by BSNL to charge pension contribution on the actual pay of the absorbed employees w.e.f. 1.1.2006 as per the revised Rules circulated by Department of Personnel & Training. AIBSNLREA has also pointed out that Department of Telecommunication has not even implemented a Cabinet decision taken on 26.12.2013 to charge pension contribution w.e.f. 1.1.2006 calculated on the actual pay of the absorbed employees of MTNL. The Association has finally appealed to the Prime Minister that "... we fervently appeal to you to kindly intervene in the matter so that Department of Telecommunication stops collecting pension contribution under FR-116 from BSNL for the absorbed employees who are no more its employees and as such

their postings on deputation/foreign service in BSNL do not arise at all. Till a decision is taken on the matter, let the pension contribution be collected w.e.f. 01.01.2006 only on the actual pay drawn in the IDA pay scales as per the revised Rules issued by DoP&T. [View posting dated 27.01.2018 in this website to read the letter](#)

DIALATORY ATTITUDE OF DPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS REGARDING REVISION OF IDA PAY SCALES OF BSNL EXECUTIVES AND CONSEQUENT REVISION OF PENSION/FAMILY PENSION OF THE BSNL PENSIONERS/FAMILY PENSIONERS- AIBSNLREA SEEKS INTERVENTION OF THE PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA: AIBSNLREA has brought to the notice of the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India that Department of Telecommunication is sitting over a proposal, duly approved by BSNL Board for revision of pay scales of BSNL Executives, listing some measures to ensure its affordability to absorb the increased expenditure. But on the same question of affordability, the approval to the proposal is held up in DOT. The Association has stated in its representation that "The double standard of Department of Telecommunications comes to the fore when the same DOT had earlier cleared the proposal for revision of IDA pay scales of MTNL Executives with 30% fitment benefit w.e.f. 1.1.2007 based on 2nd PRC recommendations – even though MTNL was a chronic loss making CPSE for decades and the affordability clause existed then too". The Association has further pointed out that "The revision of IDA pay scales of BSNL Executives is also a must in view of the decision of the Government that was taken in a Cabinet meeting, while approving the proposal for payment of pension to the MTNL employees by the Government, to bring parity in pay scales of BSNL and MTNL Executives since MTNL pay scales are higher than that of BSNL. While communicating the decision regarding sharing of the liability for the payment of pensionary benefits to the MTNL employees, Department of Telecommunications at Para (d) of its Office Order No. 42-4/2012-Pen(T) dated 28/04/2014 had clearly stated that at the time of next wage revision MTNL and BSNL will achieve pay scale parity by bringing down the pay scales of MTNL to the level of BSNL pay scales. Since the pay scales of MTNL Executives cannot be brought down, the revision of pay scales of BSNL Executives is the only option now to bring the pay scale parity. Finally, the Association has appealed to the Prime Minister to kindly advise Department of Telecommunications to accord approval to the proposal for revision of IDA Pay Scales to the BSNL Executives at the earliest". [View posting dated 16.01.2018 in this website to read the letter](#)

AIBSNLREA WRITES AGAIN TO SECRETARY (TELECOM) REGARDING THE CONTINUED HARASSMENT OF THE ABSORBED BSNL PENSIONERS BY CCA, KERALA BY NOT REVISING THEIR PENSION IN TERMS OF DOT ORDER DATED 18/07/2016: AIBSNLREA has again taken up the case of non-issue of revised PPOs to many absorbed BSNL pensioners (retired Executives) by the Controller of Communication Accounts, Kerala Circle despite the DCO, DOT forwarding the earlier representation of the Association to him and also the DOP&PW forwarding copy of the said representation to Director (Estt), Department of Telecommunications for appropriate action as per extant rules. [View postings dated 27/11/2017, 11/12/2017, 15/12/2017 and 30/12/2017 in this website for more details]. The Association has pleaded that "we again earnestly request you to kindly intervene in the matter so that the CCA, Kerala immediately issues the revised Pension Payment Orders (PPOs) to the affected BSNL IDA Pensioners (Retired Executives)". [View posting dated 14.01.2018 in this website to read the letter](#)

AIBSNLREA POINTS OUT TO THE SECRETARY (PENSION) AND OTHERS REGARDING GROSS VIOLATION OF PENSION RULES TO REVISE THE PENSION, ONCE AUTHORIZED, TO THE DISADVANTAGE OF THE PENSIONERS BY THE PRINCIPAL CONTROLLER OF COMMUNICATION ACCOUNTS, TAMILNADU CIRCLE: AIBSNLREA has sent a representation to Secretary (Pension and other concerned regarding the action of Principal CCA, Tamilnadu Circle in revising the pension of the absorbed BSNL pensioners (executives) fixed long back based on their last pay drawn which took into account the pay fixed on local officiating promotion to the DE grade. Association cites Rules 70 of the CCS (Pension) Rules 1972 which prohibits revision of pension, once authorized, to the disadvantage of the pensioners unless a clerical error is detected subsequently. The Association further writes that “we earnestly request you to kindly intervene in the matter and bestow justice to the hapless affected pensioners. The Department of Telecommunications may kindly be advised to adhere to the Pension Rules and restore the original pension authorized and the revise the same as and when due.” [View posting dated 10.01.2018 in this website to read the letter](#)

AIBSNLREA WRITES TO DIRECTOR (HR), BSNL REGARDING DELAYED PAYMENT OF QUARTERLY INSTALMENTS OF MEDICAL CLAIMS WITHOUT VOUCHER TO THE RETIRED BSNL EMPLOYEES: AIBSNLREA has addressed a letter to Director (HR), BSNL about the delay that was caused for payment of first and second instalments of the amount to the retired BSNL employees who opted for the facility of medical claims without voucher. The Association has requested that the BSNL Units be advised to ensure timely payment of the third and fourth instalments as the third instalment is already due. [View posting dated 09.01.2018 in this website to read the letter](#)

AIBSNLREA REQUEST DIRECTOR (HR), BSNL TO EXAMINE AND SETTLE THE CASE OF SHRI SHASHI BHUSAN, RETD SDE FOR NOTIONAL PROMOTION UNDER THE GUIDELINES ISSUED BY DOP&T FOR PROMOTION OF GOVERNMENT SERVANTS WHO ARE EXONERATED AFTER THEIR RETIREMENT: AIBSNLREA has since addressed a letter to Director (HR), BSNL requesting her to re-examine the case for notional promotion of Shri Shashi Bhusan, Retd SDE, who was exonerated of the charges after his retirement from service, as per the guidelines issued by DOP&T vide its No. 22011/3/2013-Estt. (D) dated 25.01.2016. Shri Shashi Bhusan was not assessed at the time of holding CPC for regular promotion since his ACRs for the suspension periods were not available. Thus, his case remained unsettled. The Association has requested to assess his case by considering the ACRs of earlier periods and allow notional promotion to him. [View posting dated 07.01.2018 in this website to read the letter](#)

AIBSNLREA WRITES TO DIRECTOR (HR), BSNL REGARDING THE UNDUE DELAY IN SETTLEMENT OF THE CASES FOR WAIVER OF RECOVERY OF EXCESS/WRONGFUL PAYMENTS MADE TO THE RETIRED EXECUTIVES OF TAMILNADU CIRCLE DUE TO UNCALLED FOR REFERENCE BY THE CIRCLE TO BSNL CORPORATE OFFICE IN THE NAME OF SEEKING CLARIFICATIONS: AIBSNLREA has since addressed a letter to the Director (HR), BSNL since the Tamilnadu Circle is delaying settlement of the cases for waiver of excess/wrongful payments made to some retired Executives by referring the matter to BSNL Corporate Office in the name of seeking some clarifications despite DoP&T's clear Order on the subject. The Association has requested “that CGM Tamilnadu Circle may be

duly advised to forward the cases of these retired Executives with justification and due recommendation as per your Office Order No. 1-06/2016-PAT (BSNL) dated 9.9.2016, without any further delay.” [View posting dated 04.01.2018 in this website to read the letter](#)

ACTION ON AIBSNLREA’S REPRESENTATIONS

NON-ISSUE OF REVISED PPOs BY CCA, KERALA CIRCLE IN TERMS OF DOT ORDER DATED 18/07/2016 REGARDING REVISION OF PENSION BY ALLOWING BENEFIT OF MERGER OF 78.2% IDA TO THE BSNL PENSIONERS RETIRED PRIOR TO 10/06/2013 – DOP&PW FORWARDS THE REMINDER ISSUED BY AIBSNLREA TO THE DOT: AIBSNLREA earlier took up the above issue with Secretary (Telecom) and others which was also followed by a reminder on 12/01/2018. We have already reported in this website, vide our posting dated 26. 01.2018 in this website, that CCA, Kerala has reported DOT that “... the cases are under process. Revised PPOs will be issued immediately”. Meanwhile, DOP&PW has also forwarded the copy of the said reminder issued by the Association, which was endorsed to Secretary (Pension), to the Director (Estt), Department of Telecommunications. . [View posting dated 30.01.2018 in this website to read the letter](#)

PMO FORWARDS THE REPRESENTATION OF AIBSNLREA ADDRESSED TO PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA REGARDING REVISION OF IDA PAY SCALES OF BSNL EXECUTIVES AND CONSEQUENT REVISION OF PENSION/FAMILY PENSION OF THE BSNL PENSIONERS/FAMILY PENSIONERS TO THE SECRETARY, DOT: In a letter addressed to the Prime Minister of India, AIBSNLREA had earlier drawn his attention to the fact that DOT is sitting over a proposal, duly approved by BSNL Board, for revision of IDA pay scales of BSNL Executives, on the stated ground of affordability of BSNL to meet the additional expenditure even though BSNL had already suggested some measures to absorb the expenditure. The Association also stated in its representation that “The double standard of Department of Telecommunications comes to the fore when the same DOT had earlier cleared the proposal for revision of IDA pay scales of MTNL Executives with 30% fitment benefit w.e.f. 1.1.2007 based on 2nd PRC recommendations – even though MTNL was a chronic loss making CPSE for decades and the affordability clause existed then too”. The Association further submitted that “The revision of IDA pay scales of BSNL Executives is also a must in view of the decision of the Government that was taken in a Cabinet meeting, while approving the proposal for payment of pension to the MTNL employees by the Government, to bring parity in pay scales of BSNL and MTNL Executives since MTNL pay scales are higher than that of BSNL. While communicating the decision regarding sharing of the liability for the payment of pensionary benefits to the MTNL employees, Department of Telecommunications at Para (d) of its Office Order No. 42-4/2012-Pen(T) dated 28/04/2014 had clearly stated that at the time of next wage revision MTNL and BSNL will achieve pay scale parity by bringing down the pay scales of MTNL to the level of BSNL pay scales. Since the pay scales of MTNL Executives cannot be brought down, the revision of pay scales of BSNL Executives is the only option now to bring the pay scale parity” [View posting dated 16.01.2018 in this website to read the representation]. Now Prime Minister’s Office has forwarded the said representation to Secretary, DOT for action appropriate. [View posting dated 28.01.2018 in this website to read the letter](#)

DOT DISPOSES OFF THE REPRESENTATION OF AIBSNLREA TO THE SECRETARY (TELECOM) REGARDING THE CONTINUED HARASSMENT OF THE ABSORBED BSNL PENSIONERS BY CCA, KERALA IN NOT REVISING THEIR PENSION IN TERMS OF DOT ORDER DATED 18/07/2016:

AIBSNLREA had represented to Secretary (Telecom) regarding non-issue of revised PPOs to many absorbed BSNL pensioners (retired Executives) by the Controller of Communication Accounts, Kerala Circle. The Association again took up the matter with Secretary (Telecom) since the issue remained resolved despite the DCO, DOT forwarding the earlier representation of the Association to CCA, Kerala also the DOP&PW forwarding copy of the said representation to Director (Estt), Department of Telecommunications [View postings dated 27/11/2017, 11/12/2017, 15/12/2017, 30/12/2017 and 14/01/2018 in this website for more details]. Now, Department of Telecommunication has disposed off the case enclosing a copy of the Case Report by CCA, Kerala and stating that “Clarification on the subject received from Directorate and the cases are under process. Revised PPOs will be issued immediately”. Thus the matter stands resolved. [View posting dated 26.01.2018 in this website to read the letter](#)

DOP&W FORWARDS AIBSNLREA’S REPRESENTATION TO SECRETARY (PENSION) REGARDING GROSS VIOLATION OF PENSION RULES TO REVISE THE PENSION, ONCE AUTHORIZED, TO THE DISADVANTAGE OF THE PENSIONERS BY THE PRINCIPAL CONTROLLER OF COMMUNICATION ACCOUNTS, TAMILNADU CIRCLE TO THE DOT:

AIBSNLREA had sent a representation to Secretary (Pension) and others concerned regarding the action of Principal CCA, Tamilnadu Circle in revising the pension of the absorbed BSNL pensioners (executives) fixed long years back based on their last pay drawn which took into account the pay fixed on local officiating promotion to the DE grade. Association cited Rules 70 of the CCS (Pension) Rules 1972 which prohibits revision of pension, once authorized, to the disadvantage of the pensioners unless a clerical error is detected subsequently [View posting dated 10/01/2017 to read the letter]. Now Department of Pension & Pensioners’ Welfare has forwarded the said representation to the Director (Estt), Department of Telecommunications for considering the issue raised. [View posting dated 23.01.2018 in this website to read the letter](#)

DOP&PW FORWARDS AIBSNLREA’S REPRESENTATION ON ABNORMAL DELAY IN RELEASING GRATUITY, SETTLEMENT OF PENSION, COMMUTATION VALUE OF PENSION CASE OF SHRI R K HIRKANEY, RETD DE, MAHARASHTRA:

AIBSNLREA took up the above issue with Secretary (Telecom) once again and requested her to intervene in the matter. The Association further requested that Shri R K Hirkaney, Retd DE, Kalyan Telecom District be paid all his dues on account of his pension from the past years and his gratuity released forthwith with interests for delayed payments [View posting dated 19.12.2017 to read the letter]. Now DOP&PW has forwarded the copy of the said representation to Department of Telecommunications to examine the issue as per extant rules/orders and inform the Association accordingly. [View posting dated 08.01.2018 in this website to read the letter](#)

INCREASE IN IDA W.E.F. 1.1.2018

IDA has again recorded an increase w.e.f. 1.1.2018. According to calculations based

on All India Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers, IDA has increased w.e.f. 1.1.2018 by 2.6% for CPSEs where last pay revision was implemented w.e.f. 1.1.2007 and by 5.6% where last pay revision was implemented w.e.f. 1.1.1997. [View postings dated 03.01.2018 in this website to read the DPE Orders.](#)

BRANCHES IN ACTION

AIBSNLREA'S REPRESENTATION AGAINST GROSS VIOLATION OF PENSION RULES TO REVISE THE PENSION, ONCE AUTHORIZED, TO THE DISADVANTAGE OF THE PENSIONERS BY THE PRINCIPAL CCA, TAMILNADU CIRCLE - CHENNAI BRANCH OF AIBSNLREA MEETS JOINT CCA, TAMILNADU TO FURTHER DISCUSS THE ISSUE: AIBSNLREA, CHQ had earlier sent a representation to Secretary (Pension) and other concerned regarding the action of Principal CCA, Tamilnadu Circle in revising the pension of the absorbed BSNL pensioners (executives) fixed long back based on their last pay drawn which took into account the pay fixed on local officiating promotion to the DE grade. The Association had cited Rules 70 of the CCS (Pension) Rules 1972 which prohibits revision of pension, once authorized, to the disadvantage of the pensioners unless a clerical error is detected subsequently [View posting dated 10.01.2018 in this website]. DOP&PW had also forwarded the said representation to DOT. Now, the representatives of Chennai Branch of AIBSNLREA comprising of Branch President Shri V. Dakshinamoorthy, Secretary Shri L.Sundararaman, and Asst. Secretary Shri R.R. Balasubramanian met Shri Anbalagan, Jt CCA TN, Chennai on 29.01.2018 and handed over him a representation, citing two cases wherein TN CCA has reduced the last pay drawn with 78.2% fitment benefit and consequently the revised pension on the plea that these pensioners are not eligible for increment fixed during officiating as per BSNL order issued in February 2017. It was also pointed out in the said representation that BSNL had correctly worked out refixation of pay with 78.2% IDA, including the officiating increments. It was further pointed out that as per Rule 70 of pension rules, the pension once authorized cannot be reduced to the disadvantage of pensioner except in case of clerical error and case of misconduct. After discussions, the Jt.CCA wanted the affected pensioners to represent individually along with the copies of their pay fixation/fitment memo issued by the concerned BSNL Units so as to examine and resolve the cases. The Branch representatives also informed the Jt. CCA that some of the pensioners did not receive their revised PPOs which were sent by ordinary post and requested him to consider sending such important orders by Speed post/registered post. He agreed to consider the proposal and also said that there are many PPOs returned undelivered and available in his office, for one reason or the other.

GB MEETING OF AIBSNLREA, AMBALA BRANCH: A General Body Meeting of AIBSNLREA, Amblala Branch was held on 24.01.2018 at Delhi Darbar Restaurant, The meeting was held under the chairmanship of Shri PC Chauhan and was attended by 28 members. The President welcomed all the participants and wished them a very happy new year 2018 and prayed for the good health for all the members. Two new life members also joined the Association and were welcomed by all. Branch Secretary briefed the members on the various issues concerning the members. The members were updated on the latest status on Court case filed by the Association in the Hon'ble Supreme Court on 78.2% IDA fixation arrears of pay, pension and other allowances,

implementation of 3rd PRC with 15% fitment benefit for BSNL pensioners and extension of medical facility without vouchers for BSNL pensioners. The meeting was followed by Lunch.

NEW BRANCH OF AIBSNLREA FORMED IN AURANGABAD, MAHARASHTRA: In a meeting of the retired Executives held on 21st January, 2018, a new Branch of AIBSNLREA in Aurangabad (Maharashtra State) was formed. The meeting was arranged by S/Shri R S Dudhe, and V P Joshi, both Retd. DEs. Twenty members from Aurangabad attended the meeting. S/Shri. L M Godi, President of Kolhapur Branch and A K Kolekar, also from Kolhapur first addressed the meeting. Thereafter, Shri D K Joshi, Joint Secretary, AIBSNLREA, CHQ addressed the gathering and spoke in detail about the main purpose of the Association, its functioning, activities and issues taken up at various levels. He also dealt with the issue of court case on pay/pension arrears, 3rd PRC and other circle matters. The meeting went on for nearly two hours. The queries raised by the participants were also replied to their satisfaction. Then a Branch body was formed with the following Office Bearers elected unanimously:- President: Shri R S Dudhe (Mob No.9420416788), Vice-President: Shri A S Nevargikar (Mob No. 9422201010), Branch Secretary: Shri V P Joshi (Mob No. 9423449344), Asst. Branch Secretary: Shri C S Powar, Finance Secretary: Shri H D Gadlinge (Mob No. 94222010440).

RAJKOT BRANCH HELD ITS GENERAL BODY MEETING: A General body meeting of Rajkot branch (Gujarat State) was held on 17-01-2018 at the conference hall of K.R.Telephone Exchange Building, Rajkot. Total 30 members were present. One new member joined the Association. Total membership of the Branch reached to 47.The meeting was presided over by Branch President Shri M.M. Chaniyara, who welcomed the members and briefed the members on all current issues and efforts made by the branch for solving the problems. State Secretary Shri A.B.Patel briefed the house regarding the initiatives of the State Branch for solving the problem of the members. He briefed about current status of court case for implementation 78.2% fixation from 1-1-2007 and other pension related issues and appealed to the members to donate liberally for legal fund as it requires huge financial support since the case is in Hon. Supreme court of India. He also told about DOT's move on disbursement of pension directly in the accounts of the pensioners/family pensioners from the office of concerned CCAs instead of Post offices and Banks and our stand on the issue. Shri B.M.Bhavsar, Org. Secretary (W), CHQ addressed the House. He briefed the house about Medical reimbursement problems for with and without vouchers in details. He also told about the necessity of preparing "WILL" for our heirs to avoid litigation. Some local problems were also discussed. The meeting ended with vote of thanks presented by Shri Bhimani. It was followed by lunch sponsored by Shri M.D.Acharya, Senior Member of the Branch.

RAIPUR BRANCH HELD ITS BI-MONTHLY MEETING: Bi-Monthly Meeting of Raipur Branch of Chhattisgarh State was held on 7th January 2018 at the residence of Shri A R Khair, Retd AGM and also a member of the Branch. The meeting was presided over by Branch President Shri P.Z.Choradia who welcomed the members. Two minutes silence was first observed to pay homage to S/Shri R K Tigga, Retd EE Civil and Rudolph Toppo, Retd DE and members of the Branch who recently expired. Branch Secretary Shri G P Pandey briefed the members on all current issues including the increase in IDA w.e.f 1st January, 2018, DOT's move on disbursement of pension

directly in the accounts of the pensioners/family pensioners from the office of concerned CCAs instead of Post offices and Banks, 3rd PRC etc. Some local problems were also discussed. The meeting ended with vote of thanks presented by the Branch president.

AMRAVATI BRANCH OF AIBSNLREA (WEST VIDARBHA REGION) HELD ITS GB MEETING: A General Body Meeting of AIBSNLREA, Amravati Branch (Maharashtra State) was held under the Chairmanship of Shri R. W. Tidke, President of the Branch, at 1400 hrs. of 5th January 2018 at the Conference hall of G. M. Telecom, BSNL, Amravati. The meeting was attended by 26 members of the Branch along with Shri V.G.Dakhode, State Secretary AIBSNLREA, Maharashtra State. The Branch Secretary Shri D. V. Rokade and President Shri R.W.Tidke, informed the house about the developments taken place after the last meeting held in September, 2017. They elaborated the developments in respect of revised medical option and gave the latest status regarding the progress of medical facility without vouchers. Shri V. G. Dakhode, State Secretary, AIBSNLREA, Maharashtra State discussed about the latest position of the Court Case. Also discussed about the 3rd PRC developments and highlighted the important key issues of the BSNL being processed at State and All India level. The queries raised by the members were duly replied by him. The meeting was concluded with the vote of thanks presented by Shri M.Z.Shinde, Financial Secretary of the Branch.

GORAKHPUR BRANCH (UP STATE) OF AIBSNLREA COLLECTS AND DEPOSITS THE CONTRIBUTION RAISED FOR THE SECOND TIME FROM ITS MEMBERS FOR LEGAL ACTION: Gorakhpur Branch (UP State) of AIBSNLREA has raised the contribution for the second time for legal action on pay/pension arrears issue from the same members who had already contributed earlier. Thus each member of the Branch has contributed a total of Rs. 1000/- each. Therefore after Lucknow Branch, it is the members of Gorakhpur Branch which has shown their resolve to contribute their maximum for a cause. The spirit of the members of the Branch needs to be lauded.

A NEW BRANCH OF AIBSNLREA FORMED IN KERALA: A new Branch of AIBSNLREA has been formed on 09.01.2018 in Kerala with retired BSNL Executives from Ernakulam and Alleppy. The Office-bearers of this newly formed "Ernakulam-Alleppy" Branch are as follows:- President: Shri M Sethumadhavan, Vice-President: Shri K P Philip, Secretary: Shri Mathew Jacob, Joint Secretary: Shri K G Balakrishna Pillai, Finance Secretary: Shri Mathew Jacob, Executive Committee Members: S/Shri K B Reghunathan Nair and K Balarajan. Retired BSNL Executives of the area may contact Shri Mathew Jacob, Branch Secretary on his mobile number 9446060300 for Life Membership.

GENERAL BODY MEETING OF AIBSNLREA, CHENNAI BRANCH HELD: A General Body Meeting of AIBSNLREA, Chennai Branch was held on 21-12-2017 at Hotel B.R.Mathsaya, Chennai. The meeting started at 10.30 AM with Shri V. Dakshinamoorthy, President in the Chair. He welcomed all the members present in the meeting. 56 members attended the meeting. He informed the house about the proposed move of the DOT to shift the existing pension payment arrangement by banks and post offices, to the respective CCAs of territorial circle and requested the senior members to discuss the pros and cons of the same. He also added a few more issues relating to Medical reimbursement without voucher, medical reimbursement of in-patient treatment, extended stay in hospital for pensioners etc, which needs improvement. He also expressed his

happiness in the growth of the membership of the branch. After self-introduction of the members, Secretary Shri L Sundararaman read out a detailed report about the activities of the association after the last AGB and informed the house that revision of pension with fitment benefit by merger of 78.2% IDA is almost complete except a few cases (service book missing cases). He also reported about increase of membership by 25 more members, collection of contribution for court case and remitting the same to CHQ and also the efforts taken in getting the 'Vakalatnama' signed by senior members and also about 3rd PRC. He also thanked all office bearers and the members for bringing more and more new members to the branch. In the meeting 7 more new members joined the branch, raising the membership above 200.

Shri V. Chinnapappiah, President CHQ, in his address, appreciated the efforts taken by the branch in increasing the membership and welcomed all the new members who joined on that day in the meeting. He also spoke about the efforts put forth by G.S in filing the case in Supreme Court and appealed to all comrades to give additional donation to ease the financial constraint of the CHQ to defend the court case. Shri S.Ratnasubramanian, AGS, CHQ, in his address explained about how pension revision is evolved over last 2 decades and assured the members that if the pay of executives of BSNL is revised, then the Pension of BSNL pensioners also will be revised. He informed the house about BSNL's interest in implementation of 3rd PRC and categorically ruled out the possibility of revision of pension based on 7th CPC to BSNL pensioners since this is against the law of the land as laid down by the Supreme Court.

In the interactive session, the members raised some doubts about the increment denial for officiating period and consequent reduction of pension during 78.2% pension revision. For retired executives whether BSNL is making any pension contribution to DOT etc. Few members have given additional donation in response to CHQ President's appeal. Five senior comrades namely S/Shri B. Shanmugam, S. Veerabahu, S. Rajagopal, Indrakumar and G.Raghunathan were honoured in the meeting and it was decided to honour other senior members also in future meetings. The participants expressed their happiness in attending the meeting and the manner in which issues are discussed and highlighted in our website and assured to offer their continued support to the association. The meeting ended with vote of thanks by Shri R.R. Balasubramanian, Asst Branch Secretary followed by Lunch.

STATEMENT OF AMOUNT RECEIVED DURING JANUARY 2018

Kolhapur Branch (Maharashtra State) has deposited Rupees twenty four thousand three hundred (Rs. 24300/-) only in the Savings Bank Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 31/01/2018 as contribution (Rs.12000/-) for seeking legal remedy for pay/pension arrears issue and as donation (Rs. 11500/-) on receiving pay and pension arrears and CHQ quota (Rs. 800/-) for 4 new life members.

Parbhani Branch (Maharashtra State) has deposited Rupees four hundred (Rs. 400/-) only in the Savings Bank Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 29/01/2018 as quota for 2 new Life Members.

Parbhani Branch (Maharashtra State) has deposited Rupees four thousand (Rs. 4000/-) only in the Savings Bank Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 29/01/2018 as contribution for seeking legal remedy for pay/pension arrears issue collected from 8 members.

Allahabad Branch (UP State) has deposited Rupees one thousand five hundred (Rs. 1500/-) only in the Savings Bank Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 29/01/2018 as contribution for seeking legal remedy for pay/pension arrears issue.

Allahabad Branch (UP State) has deposited Rupees eight hundred (Rs. 800/-) only in the Savings Bank Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 29/01/2018 as quota for 4 new Life Members.

East Godavari Branch (AP State) has deposited Rupees eight hundred (Rs. 800/-) only in the Savings Bank Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 29/01/2018 as quota for 4 new Life Members.

Shri R Venkataraman, Retd DE & Life Member of Tiruchirapalli Branch (Tamilnadu State) has deposited Rupees two thousand five hundred (Rs. 2500/-) only in the Savings Bank Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 29/01/2017 as contribution (Rs 500/-) for seeking legal remedy on pay/pension arrears issue and donation (Rs. 2000/-) on receiving pension arrears.

Ambala Branch (Haryana State) has deposited Rupees two thousand eight hundred (Rs. 2800/-) only in the Savings Bank Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 25/01/2018 as contribution (Rs. 2,400/-) for seeking legal remedy for pay/pension arrears issue and quota (Rs. 400/-) for 2 new Life Members.

Pune Branch (Maharashtra State) has deposited Rupees fifteen thousand (Rs. 15000/-) only in the Savings Bank Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 22/01/2018 as contribution (Rs. 12,000/-) for seeking legal remedy for pay/pension arrears issue and quota (Rs. 3,000/-) for 15 new Life Members.

Indore Branch (Madhya Pradesh State) has deposited Rupees three thousand (Rs. 3000/-) only in the Savings Bank Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 22/01/2018 as contribution for seeking legal remedy for pay/pension arrears issue.

Tirunelveli Branch (Tamilnadu State) has deposited Rupees three thousand five hundred (Rs. 3500/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 20/01/2018 as contribution to seek legal remedy on pay and pension arrears issue collected from 7 members.

Chennai Branch (Tamilnadu State) has deposited Rupees seven thousand two hundred fifty (Rs. 7250/-) only in the Savings Bank Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 18/01/2018 as contribution for seeking legal remedy for pay/pension arrears issue collected from 12 members, out which 3 members had contributed earlier also.

Amravati Branch (Maharashtra State) has deposited Rupees three thousand five hundred (Rs. 3500/-) only in the Savings Bank Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 17/01/2018 as contribution (Rs. 2000/-) for seeking legal remedy for pay/pension arrears issue collected from 4 members and as donation (Rs. 1500/-) on receiving pay/pension arrears collected from 3 members.

Shri Kishori Lal, Retd JTO from Jammu has deposited Rupees five hundred fifty (Rs. 550/-) only in the Savings Bank Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 17/01/2018 to take Life Membership of AIBSNLREA.

Chennai Branch (Tamilnadu State) has deposited Rupees One thousand six hundred (Rs. 1600/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 13/01/2018 as CHQ quota for 8 new life members.

Ballia Branch (UP State) has deposited Rupees two thousand two hundred (Rs 2200/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 11/01/2018 as contribution (Rs.2000/-) to seek legal remedy on pay and pension arrears issue collected from 4 members and CHQ quota (Rs 200/-) for 1 new Life Member.

Lucknow Branch (UP State) has Delhi has deposited Rupees one thousand five hundred (Rs 1500/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 11/01/2018 as contribution to seek legal remedy on pay and pension arrears issue collected from 3 members.

Ernakulam-Alleppy Branch (Kerala State) has deposited Rupees two thousand (Rs. 2000/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 10/01/2018 as CHQ quota for 10 new Life Members.

Shri J R Bhattacharya, Retired ADG, BSNL Corporate Office from Mayur Vihar, New Delhi has deposited Rupees five hundred (Rs 500/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 09/01/2018 as contribution to seek legal remedy on pay and pension arrears issue.

Gorakhpur Branch (Uttar Pradesh State) has deposited Rupees two thousand five hundred (Rs 2500/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 04/01/2018 as second time contribution for seeking legal remedy on pay/pension arrears issue collected from 4 members.

Gujarat State Branch has deposited Rupees one lakh (Rs. 100000/-) only in the Savings Bank Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 02/01/2018 as contribution (Rs. 80,000/-) for seeking legal remedy for pay/pension arrears issue and quota (Rs. 20,000/-) for 100 new Life Members.

Amravati Branch (Maharashtra State) has deposited Rupees two thousand (Rs. 2000/-) only in the Savings Bank Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 01/01/2018 as contribution for seeking legal remedy for pay/pension arrears issue collected from 3 members.

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