



## Editorial

### IS IT INDIFFERENCE OR CALLOUSNESS ON THE PART OF DOT

As the current state of affairs indicate, finalization of draft Cabinet Note on the proposal to extend the fitment benefit of merger of 78.2% IDA to the pre-2007 BSNL pensioners and those who retired between 01.01.2007 and 09.06.2013 is getting further delayed. DOT now wants information regarding number of pre-2007 BSNL IDA pensioners and post 2007 BSNL IDA pensioners (cadre/grade wise) who retired between 01.01.2007 and 09.06.2013 vide its No. 40-13/2013-Pen(T) dated 13.03.2015 and has accordingly asked BSNL to supply these information. On the last occasion when the Internal Finance returned the concerned file to the Establishment Branch raising some queries, the Branch was confident to supply the same within a few days. But surprisingly now the same Branch wants the help of BSNL to provide the above particular information. This raises genuine doubts on the seriousness on which the issue should have dealt in DOT. The matter is already over delayed. Now, further delay seems to be unavoidable.

Unfortunately, DOT's very decision to implement the DPE OM for granting fitment benefit of 78.2% IDA w.e.f 1.1.2007 for revision of pay scales from a prospective date i.e. 10.06.2013 itself was

faulty. Then, BSNL implemented the DOT's Presidential Directive dated 10.06.2013 only for its serving employees w.e.f. 1.1.2007 but denied the same to those employees who were in service on 1.1.2007 and retired before 10.06.2013. This is a blatant case of discrimination. Because these employees were also in service on 1.1.2007 and got the benefit of revised IDA pay scales along the employees who retired after 10.06.2013. Had they also been granted the revised fitment benefit, to-day the situation would have been altogether different. Moreover, these employees who retired between 1.1.2007 and 09.06.2013 are also under the threat of being denied the benefit of enhanced DCRG, Commutation and leave encashment. Thus, DOT has already done the maximum damage to the affected retired employees. Now delaying revision of pension with revised fitment benefit by merger of 78.2% DA, it is further damaging the interest of these retired employees.

The latest action of DOT to ask BSNL to furnish the above stated information is really shocking and uncalled for. In respect of the pre-2007 retirees, DOT is already having these information which they must have used for calculation of financial implication while finalizing [\[see next page\]](#)

the Cabinet Memo in 2011 for revision of pension with fitment benefit of 68.8% DA. In respect of later group of retirees, such information should also be available with the CCAs i.e. DOT since Pension Payment Orders are being issued by them. Therefore, DOT is just killing the time. We have never seen such type of indifference and callousness earlier. This is just not acceptable.

AIBSNLREA, on its part, has already appealed to the Hon'ble Prime Minister for intervention since no result was forthcoming by approaching even the Secretary (Telecom) and Minister of Communications & IT. It seems that unless there is a pressure from the higher ups, the Department of Telecommunication and in that sense Ministry of Communication will not wake up.

### CIRCULATION OF CABINET NOTE FOR REVISION OF PENSION TO BE FURTHER DELAYED - DOT WANTS FRESH INFORMATION

Department of Telecommunication has since asked Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited to provide the information regarding number of pre-2007 BSNL IDA pensioners and post 2007 BSNL IDA pensioners (cadre/grade wise) who retired between 01.01.2007 and 09.06.2013 vide its No. 40-13/2013-Pen(T) dated 13.03.2015. BSNL on its part, vide its No. 48-04/2015-Pen(B) dated 26.03.2015, has asked the Circles to furnish the same information to it. This is believed to be in connection with finalization of the draft Cabinet Note by DOT for revision of pension/family pension of the concerned pensioners/family pensioners. Thus, the circulation of Cabinet Note to the concerned Ministries will be further delayed. [View posting dated 28.03.2015 in this website to read the letters.](#)

### RESTORATION OF MEDICAL ALLOWANCE FOR OUTDOOR TREATMENT WITHOUT VOUCHER TO THE RETIRED BSNL EMPLOYEES

BSNL Corporate Office is now considering the demand for restoration of medical allowance for outdoor treatment without voucher to the retired BSNL employees. In order to examine the issue, BSNL Corporate Office has asked all CGMs to furnish some information vide its No. BSNL/Admn.I/15-22/14 dated 17.03.2015. [View posting dated 19.03.2015 in this website to read the letter.](#)

### INCREASE IN IDA W.E.F. 1.4.2015

According to calculations based on All India Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers, IDA is to be increased w.e.f. 1.4.2015 by 0.2% for CPSEs where last pay revision was implemented w.e.f. 1.1.2007 and by 0.5% where last pay revision was implemented w.e.f. 1.1.1997. Though marginally, this year the IDA has registered an increase compared to 1.4.2014 when IDA was decreased by 2.1% where last pay revision was implemented w.e.f. 1.1.2007 and 3.6% where last pay revision was for implemented w.e.f. 1.1.1997.

## ISSUES TAKEN UP

**AIBSNLREA TAKES UP WITH PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA THE ISSUE OF NON-FINALIZATION OF THE CABINET NOTE FOR REVISION OF PENSION FOR THE PRE-2007 AND POST 2007 BSNLPENSIONERS, WHO RETIRED BETWEEN 01.01.2007 AND 09.06.2013, BY DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATION DESPITE CLEAR ADVICE FROM DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE AND THE TIME FRAME FIXED BY DEPARTMENT OF PENSION & PERNSIONERS' WELFARE – POINTS OUT TO THE INSENSITIVE, INDIFFERENT AND APATHETIC ATTITUDE OF THE OFFICERS OF DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATION:** In the background of inordinate delay taking place to finalize the Cabinet Note to seek its approval on the issue of revision of pension of pre-2007 BSNL pensioners and post 2007 BSNL pensioners, who retired between 1.1.2007 and 9.6.2013, AIBSNLREA presents a brief on the issue to the Prime Minister and seeks his intervention in the matter since the Officers in DOT seem to be insensitive, indifferent and apathetic to this genuine problem of the pensioners. AIBSNLREA writes, vide its No. AIBSNLREA/CHQ/2015/08 dated 28.03.2015, :- “5. On our part we have already knocked the doors of all concerned Officers in Department of Telecommunication. *We have also sent numerous representations to even Secretary (Telecom) and Minister of Communications & IT. But there is no response.* This compels us now to seek for your kind intervention so that Department of Telecommunication do the needful, as advised by both DOE and DOP&PW, to extend the genuine and lawful benefit to the affected absorbed BSNL pensioners”. [View posting dated 30.03.2015 in this website to read the letter.](#)

**AIBSNLREA TAKES UP WITH PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA THE CASE OF INORDINATE DELAY IN EXTENDING THE BENEFIT OF DEFERRED OPTION AS PER PARA 4 OF DOP&PW OM NO. 4/18/87-P&PW(D) DATED 05.07.1989 TO THE GROUP C EMPLOYEES ABSORBED IN BSNL:** AIBSNLREA draws the attention of the Prime Minister of India on the unprecedented delay in extending the above benefit to the Group C Employees of DOT since absorbed in BSNL. It may be recollected that after series of representations on the above issue, DOT had sought for some information from BSNL to process the case at their end. BSNL Corporate Office had also asked the CGMs to furnish those information. In this regard posting dated 13.11.2014 and 02.12.2014 in this website may be viewed. However, the matter is still not resolved. [View posting dated 18.03.2015 in this website to read the letter.](#)

**AIBSNLREA NOW TAKES UP THE CASE OF SHRI BUDHESWAR MISTRY, RETD DE, HAZARIBAGH WITH SECRETARY (PENSION):** AIBSNLREA has since taken up the above case with Secretary (Pension), Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare since BSNL and DOT are showing no interest to finalize the case though the IO had submitted his findings in December 2010. [View posting dated 16.03.2015 in this website to read the letter.](#)

**REMOVAL OF ANOMALY IN PENSION OF THE ABSORBED BSNL PENSIONERS WHO RETIRED BETWEEN 1.10.2000 AND 31.07.2001- AIBSNLREA TAKES UP THE ISSUE WITH PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA:** AIBSNLREA has taken up the above issue with Prime Minister of India since numerous representations in the matter has failed to break the ice. The Association has requested for his personal intervention in resolving the issue citing some earlier Government decisions to resolve

identical issue in cases of some PSU/Government employees. The Association also refers to its earlier representation vide its No. AIBSNLREA/CHQ/2014/24 dated 3.11.2014 (to read the letter, view posting dated 08.11.2014 in this website) addressed to Minister of State for (PP) on the same issue wherein the said Government decisions were quoted. [View posting dated 13.03.2015 in this website to read the letter.](#)

**AIBSNLREA TAKES UP THE CASE OF NON-SETTLEMENT OF FIXATION OF PAY/PENSION OF SHRI ARABINDA CHOUDHURY, RETD. EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (CIVIL) WITH SECRETARY (PENSION), DOP&PW:** AIBSNLREA has written a letter to the Secretary (Pension), Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare seeking for his intervention in the above case since BSNL Corporate Office has not been responding to repeated representations to resolve the issue. [View posting dated 09.03.2015 in this website to read the letter.](#)

## **ACTION ON AIBSNLREA'S REPRESENTATIONS**

**31.03.2015 DEPARTMENT OF PENSION & PENSIONERS' WELFARE FORWARDS AIBSNLREA'S LETTER DATED 07.03.2015 TO DOT ON THE ISSUE OF NON-SETTLEMENT OF FIXATION OF PAY/PENSION OF SHRI ARABINDA CHOUDHURY, RETD. EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (CIVIL) TAKEN UP WITH SECRETARY (PENSION), DOP&PW FOR EXAMINATION OF THE ISSUE AND INFORM THE ASSOCIATION:** AIBSNLREA had taken up the above issue with Secretary (Pension), Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare seeking for his intervention in the above case since BSNL Corporate Office was not responding to repeated representations to resolve the issue [Posting dated 09.03.2015 in this website may be viewed to know more]. DOP&PW has advised DOT to examine the issue and inform the Association accordingly. [View posting dated 31.03.2015 in this website to read the letter.](#)

**SECRETARY (PENSION) FORWARDS AIBSNLREA'S REPRESENTATION DATED 15.03.2015 ON THE ISSUE OF INORDINATE DELAY IN FINALIZATION OF A DISCIPLINARY CASE AGAINST SHRI BUDHESWAR MISTRY, RETIRED DE, HAZARIBAGH, JHARKHAND CIRCLE AND ALSO WRITES FOR EARLY FINALIZATION OF THE CASE:** AIBSNLREA had taken up with Shri Alok Rawat, Secretary (Pension), Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare the issue of inordinate delay in finalization of a disciplinary case against Shri Budheswar Mistry, Retired DE, Hazaribagh, Jharkhand Circle vide our letter No. AIBSNLREA/CHQ/2015/06 dated 15.03.2015 [View posting dated 16.03.2015 in this website for further details]. Now Shri Rawat, Secretary, Department of Administrative Reforms, PG & Pensions, vide his DO No. Secy/AR&PG/PG/2015/5856 dated 23.03.2015, has forwarded the said representation of AIBSNLREA to Shri Rakesh Garg, Secretary (Telecom) and said that "You would agree that it is in the best interest of both, the organization and the employee concerned that the disciplinary case gets finalized early" [View posting dated 25.03.2015 in this website to read the letter.](#)

**TAMILNADU CIRCLE OF BSNL ISSUES CORRIGENDUM TO ITS EARLIER LETTER ON ANNUAL LIMIT FOR OUTDOOR TREATMENT WITH VOUCHER FOR THE RETIRED EMPLOYEES:** It may be recalled that AIBSNLREA had written a letter, vide its

No. AIBSNLREA/CHQ/2014/25 dated 13.11.2014 [view posting dated 18.11.2014 in this website to read the letter] to CGMT Tamilnadu Circle regarding a letter issued from the CGM office vide No.BSNL/MRS/M2/Genl/2011-12/06 dated 5.11.2014 to its Heads of SSAs authorizing the DGMs of the SSAs to sign permission letters to take treatment in nearby SSAs in absence of the GMs/PGMs to avoid delay. The Circle had reproduced in this Office letter one particular Para of one BSNLMRS Order issued by Corporate Office in the year 2003. While, the revised annual limit for outdoor treatment with voucher for the serving employees was also been mentioned alongside the old provision by the Circle in its letter, this was not done in case of the retired employees. AIBSNLREA had drawn the attention of the CGMT about this omission and requested to issue a corrigendum circulating the revised annual limit for the retired employees that was issued by BSNL Corporate Office in 2010 Tamilnadu CGM office has now issued a corrigendum reproducing the relevant extract from BSNL letter No. BSNL/Admn.I/14-2/09 dated 8.9.2010 to resolve the issue. A copy of this corrigendum issued by the Circle Office has also been endorsed to AIBSNLREA. We are thankful to CGMT Tamilnadu Circle for issue of this corrigendum and thus resolve the problem. [View posting dated 02.03.2015 in this website to read the Tamilnadu Circle's Corrigendum letter.](#)

## BRANCHES IN ACTION

**PALAKKAD BRANCH (KERALA STATE) OF AIBSNLREA HOLDS GENERAL BODY MEETING:** A General Body meeting of Palakkad Branch (Kerala State) was held on 26.03.2015 at Hotel Indraprastha Palakkad. The meeting commenced at 1100 hrs with observance of silence on an obituary note to late M. Haridasan Retd SDE. Late Haridasan was an active member of the association. It was at his residence that the first meeting was convened to form AIBSNLREA, Palakkad branch of AIBSNLREA. It will be well remembered. 28 members were present in the day's meeting. Regarding 78.2% IDA merger issue, there was a long discussion. Secretary elaborated the present status. Members got highly agitated over the protracted or inordinate delay in the 78.2% IDA issue. It was also unanimously resolved to take up the 78.2% IDA issue with GS, New Delhi to resort to legal action if not settled shortly. Meeting ended at 1315 hrs and all disbursed after lunch.

## STATEMENT OF PAYMENTS RECEIVED BY CHQ DURING MARCH 2015

**Pune Branch (Maharashtra State)** of AIBSNLREA has deposited Rupees One thousand two hundred (Rs 1200/--) only as CHQ quota for 6 new members in the Savings Bank Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 09.03.2015.

**Shri Pooran Mal Gupta**, Retd DGM, residing in NOIDA has deposited Rupees Five hundred Fifty (Rs 550.00) in the Savings Bank Account of CHQ with the Syndicate Bank to join AIBSNLREA as the Life Member. He has been admitted under the Headquarters Branch of Delhi State.

**Dhanbad Branch (Jharkhand State)** of AIBSNLREA has sent a Demand Draft drawn on Bank of India for Rupees Two hundred (Rs. 200.00) only against the quota for one new life member.