



Editorial

NEGATIVE MINDSET OF BSNL AGAINST ITS RETIRED EMPLOYEES STANDS EXPOSED

It is not without reason that AIBSNLREA, through a letter addressed to Hon'ble Prime of India, had to lodge its strong protest against the failure of the Government to protect the hapless BSNL IDA pensioners from being harassed, mentally tortured and discriminated against by the BSNL Management in the matter of reimbursement of their Medical Claims. This, despite AIBSNLREA repeatedly taking up the issues regarding non-reimbursement of medical claims of the BSNL IDA pensioners pending for over last one year, false claims made by BSNL in Form-26 AS page of Income Tax Department of having credited some amount, drastic cuts imposed on the ceiling limit of BSNL IDA pensioners and above all the discriminatory action of BSNL Management reimbursing the medical claims of the serving employees alone and leaving the retired employees fuming.

Thousands of members of this Association and others had earlier individually lodged their grievances regarding non-reimbursement of their long pending medical claims through DOP&PW's website CPENGRAMS. All of them were given a stock-reply that Funds were not allotted by BSNL Corporate Office and the BSNL Management was also singing the same old song that BSNL is still facing financial crisis. But the same BSNL Management had no problem to arrange Fund now and allow

reimbursement of medical claims only of its serving employees and thus leaving its retired employees in lurch. Such blatant misuse of power and authority and discriminatory action that too against the retired employees is unheard of ever before. This confirms the anti-retiree mindset of BSNL Management.

On the other hand, several representations made by AIBSNLREA drawing the attention of all in power including the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India about the high handed attitude of BSNL Management, just remained registered in some Grievance Registration Dockets which were transferred to BSNL as a matter of routine and the BSNL Management happily kept them unattended and unaddressed. This clearly establishes that the much-publicized Grievance Redressal Mechanism of the Government in respect of the pensioners has become totally ineffective, farce and redundant.

Though it is too late, the authorities must wake up and take corrective actions to make the Grievance Redressal Mechanism for the pensioners truly effective through proper handling and monitoring of the grievances and also ensuring their early redressal. Above all, let the BSNL Management be directed now to immediately reimburse all the pending medical claims of the BSNL IDA pensioners, since it has already




reimbursed the claims of the serving employees and for which no financial constraint came in the way. BSNL must also redress other pending grievances related to irrational ceiling for Medical Claims of the retired BSNL Employees.

It is also intriguing that all other Pensioners' Associations were all along maintaining a stoic silence even when BSNL advised its Circles to be prepared to reimburse medical claims of the serving employees along with salary for the month of June, 2020 and no order was issued for simultaneous reimbursement of medical claims of the retired employees. One can understand the ignominious condition of these Associations as their being the extended wing of the Unions/Associations of the serving employees who cannot raise their voice, when it needs the most, in the fear of annoying the members in their parent Union/Association of the serving employees. Now, once the damage is already done, one such Association has announced that they would be holding Standing-Dharna to demand reimbursement of medical claims of the

retired BSNL Employees. They know pretty well that reimbursement of medical claims to the retired employees must have to be done sooner or later and it cannot be kept pending forever. These Associations look to prepare ground to claim that it is due to their action the retired employees also got the reimbursement. This is the way they used to befool the serving employees and now they want to employ the same trick in case of the retired employees.

How long such old tricks can help them, only time will have to answer. We can only assure that AIBSNLREA will continue its unsparing efforts to get justice in the matter of reimbursement of their medical claims pending for over last one year, against false claims made by BSNL in Form-26 AS page of Income Tax Department of having credited some amount, drastic cuts imposed on the ceiling limit of BSNL IDA pensioners and the arbitrary and discriminatory decision of BSNL Management to reimburse the medical claims only of the serving employees and not the retired employees.

IMPORTANT EVENTS OF THE MONTH

-  BSNL has cancelled its tender floated for 4 G network upgradation and expansion which included planning, engineering, supply, installation, testing commissioning and annual maintenance of 4G mobile network in North, East, West and South Zones of BSNL and Delhi and Mumbai local service area of MTNL.
-  Directorate General of Central Government Health Scheme, vide its F. No. S-11045/36/2016-CGHS (HEC) dated 29.06.2020, has ordered further extension of all existing empanelled health care organizations under CGHS till 30.09.2020 or till next empanelment whichever is earlier.
-  Following sanction of another instalment of Rs. 5278.65 crores for payment of Ex-gratia payment to the BSNL VRS-2019 retirees by DOT, the third instalment of Ex-gratia Payment has been made to the VRS retirees on 15.07.2020 by BSNL.

- ✚ Directorate General of CGHS, vide its No. 6-52/CGHS/G.CELL/2020/DIR/CGHS dated 10.07.2020, issued detailed guidelines and rates for treatment and investigations in private healthcare organizations empanelled under CGHS for the CGHS beneficiaries in view of COVID-19 pandemic
- ✚ CBDT issued Orders, vide its F.No.225/59/2020/ITA-II dated 13.07.2020, allowing one-time relaxation for verification of Income Tax Returns for the assessment years 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20 which were submitted electronically but are pending due to non-receipt of valid ITR-V form at CPC, Bengaluru.
- ✚ DOP&W issued Orders, vide its No. 12/9/2020-P&PW(C)-6450 dated 17.07.2020, allowing provisional release of retirement benefits as per Rule 64 of CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972 during COVID-19 pandemic time to the Government Officials likely to retire before finalization and authorization of their pension and gratuity.
- ✚ BSNL issued Order, vide F.No. BSNLCO-A/11(11)/11/2020-ESTAB dated 20.07.2020, advising all the Telecom Circles and Other Administrative Units to complete certain activities in order to make fourth instalment of Ex-gratia to the BSNL VRS-2019 retirees.
- ✚ DOP&PW issued Orders, vide its No. 3/7/2020-P&PW(Desk-F)-F.6574 dated 17.07.2020, prescribing the steps to be taken to avoid grievances from the retired Government servants for inaccurate and delayed GPF settlement along with interest due to frequent instances of missing credits in their GPF Accounts.
- ✚ BSNL, vide its No. BSNLCO-PERS/13(25)/2020-PERS.I dated 21.07.2020, issued Orders asking the Circles to forward the screening committee report including the assessment grading of five years/APRs (2002-03 to 2006-07) in respect of 454 SDEs as per a list to hold Review DPC stated to comply with Supreme Court Order in Rule-206 Seniority Case of the TES Group B Officers.
- ✚ DOT, vide its No. 47-15/TA-II/CPMS/20158/Part-I/2050-86 dated 23.07.2020, asked the pensioners whose Life Certificate expired in June 2020 and also those whose Life Certificate is expiring in July 2020, who could not submit their Life Certificate due to Covid-19 pandemic, to submit their Life Certificate before 30th September 2020 failing which their pension after August 2020 will be stopped.

BSNL'S 4G NETWORK UPGRADATION AND EXPANSION TENDER CANCELLED

Amidst complaints by homegrown companies demanding a fresh tender involving greater usage of Make in India technology, yesterday BSNL has cancelled the tender for 4G network upgradation and expansion. In a notification issued by BSNL, it has been stated that the tender for planning, engineering, supply, installation, testing commissioning and annual maintenance of 4G mobile network in north, east, west and south zones of BSNL and Delhi and Mumbai local service area of MTNL has been cancelled. BSNL, in March 2020, had

floated the tender inviting bids for the upgradation for 49 thousand 300 sites to 4G and the addition of 7 thousand new sites in Delhi and Mumbai. The decision came amidst ongoing India China stand off and Government's push for self-reliant India. Earlier, in May 2020, Government had asked BSNL to relook into its tender following some complaints received. In the background of its bitter past experience regarding repeated cancellation of tenders, AIBSNLREA had then urged Minister of Communications & IT to intervene so that BSNL is allowed to move fast on commissioning of 4G services [View posting dated 10.05.2020 in this website to read the letter]. At that time, DDG(PM), DOT, in his mail dated 11.05.2020, had even invited AIBSNLREA "to discuss the issue so as to clear imaginative things" in our said letter addressed to MOC&IT.

ISSUES TAKEN UP

NON-SETTLEMENT OF CASES FOR ISSUE OF FINAL SUPERANNUATION PENSION, RELEASE OF LEAVE ENCASHMENT, DCRG AND GRANT OF CVP TO SHRI I S NAVALI, RETD SR. SDE, KARNATAKA CIRCLE EVEN AFTER COMPLETION OF JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS FOLLOWING HIS ACQUITTAL IN A COURT CASE- AIBSNLREA TAKES UP THE ISSUE: AIBSNLREA has since taken up with CMD, BSNL and others, the cases for issue of final superannuation pension, release of leave encashment, DCRG and grant of Commuted Value of Pension to Shri I S Navali, Retd Sr SDE, Karnataka Telecom Circle who retired from service on 31.05.2012 and was facing a CBI Case in the designated Court at Dharwad. He was acquitted of all the charges, along with other accused, by the Court on 25.10.2018. Since the pensioner is yet to receive his superannuation pension and other pensionary benefits even after long one and half years of his acquittal of the charges by the Court, the Association has requested CMD, BSNL to issue orders for his final retirement on attaining his age of superannuation w.e.f. 31.05.2012 and advising Karnataka Telecom Circle for immediate release of his retirement benefits and pension which are overdue. The Association has also pointed out that this case is similar to the case of another such pensioner Shri S B Mohare, Retd AO, Karnataka Circle who was also an accused in the same case but was acquitted of charges and for whom BSNL Corporate Office, vide is No. BSNL-CO-PRII/11(12)/1/2020-PERS-II dated 21.07.2020, has already issued Orders allowing him to retire and receive all pensionary benefits. [View posting dated 29.07.2020 in this website to read the letter.](#)

AIBSNLREA WRITES TO PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA ON THE ISSUE OF EXTENDING CONSEQUENTIAL BENEFITS OF PAY FIXATION INCLUDING THE PENSIONARY BENEFITS W.E.F. 01.01.2018 TO ALL EX-TEG GROUP B OFFICERS PROMOTED BY DOT IN TERMS OF SUPREME COURT JUDGEMENT IN CA No(s) 4389 of 2010 DELIVERED ON 14.12.2017: AIBSNLREA has since addressed a letter to the Prime Minister of India with copy endorsed to others requesting his intervention so that Department of Telecommunications issue orders to extend "all benefits including promotion with effect from the date when the junior was promoted with all monetary benefits and service status" and the "consequential benefits of pay-fixation including the pensionary benefits" w.e.f. 01.01.2018, as was ordered by Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgment dated 14.12.2017 in CA No.(s) 4389 of 2010, to the TEG Group B Officers

who were promoted by DOT and retired subsequently. [View posting dated 27.07.2020 in this website to read the letter.](#)

AIBSNLREA SEEKS THE INTERVENTION OF SECRETARY (PENSION) REGARDING IRREGULAR PAYMENT OF PROVISIONAL PENSION IN PIECE MEALS AND NON-RELEASE OF FINAL SUPERANNUATION PENSION AND OTHER PENSIONARY BENEFITS DESPITE CONCLUSION OF JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS AS BACK AS ON 25.10.2018 AGAINST SHRI S.B.MOHARE, RETD ACCOUNTS OFFICER, KARNATAKA:

Having failed to receive positive response from the concerned authorities in the Department of Telecommunications on the above issues even after repeated approach, AIBSNLREA has now sought the intervention of Secretary (Pension) in the matter so that the above stated most genuine grievances of Shri Shrikant B Mohare, Retd Accounts Officer, Karnataka, who retired on 31.08.2016 and against him no other case is pending against since 25.10.2018, after he was acquitted of the Charges by the Court of Addl. District & Sessions Judge (Special judge for Lokayukta & CBI cases), Dharwad are resolved at the earliest and his ordeal comes to an end. The Association has pointed out that the Controller of Communication Accounts, Karnataka is sanctioning provisional pension in piece meals and that too irregularly, though Rule-69 (b) of CCS (Pension) Rules 1972 provides for continuous payment of provisional pension from the date of retirement up to and including the date on which the final Orders are passed on completion of judicial proceedings. The Association also quoted a BSNL Order conveying the advice of DOP&PW that even if there is an Appeal pending against the Order of acquittal by the Trial Court, the judicial proceedings has to be treated as concluded and the Department may issue Orders accordingly. The Association has further mentioned that there is neither any stay-order against the order of the Trial Court acquitting all the accused in the case nor the pensioner Shri S B Mohare, Retd Accounts Officer received any notice of an Appeal having been filed. As such, Shri S B Mohare, Retd AO needs to be paid his final superannuation pension and other pensionary benefits. [View posting dated 22.07.2020 in this website to read the letter.](#)

AIBSNLREA REQUESTS BSNL TO REVIEW THE EXISTING PROCEDURE FOR SUBMISSION OF CLAIMS FOR OUTDOOR TREATMENT WITH VOUCHERS FOR THE RETIRED BSNL EMPLOYEES:

As per the existing Orders, the claims for reimbursement of medical claims with vouchers for the retired BSNL employees are preferably to be submitted each month for the preceding month. However, claims received within six months of incurring the expenditure are also to be accepted. In view of the difficulties being faced by the aged and ailing retired BSNL employees to personally visit the Office to submit their claims-especially in the background of restrictions imposed by the Government on the Senior Citizens on their movement and travel in view of Covid-19 pandemic, AIBSNLREA has requested BSNL for a review of the existing procedure for submission of claims of the retired BSNL Employees. The Association has suggested that existing procedure be modified to allow acceptance of claims (1) received within 10 months of incurring expenditure, (2) submitted with self-attested scanned copies of bills and vouchers to a given e-mail id of a designated Officer/Official in the Office, (3) submitted through Registered Post/Speed Post from any Post Office or through courier service to a designated Officer/Official in the Office for which an acknowledgement by sms is to be sent on the mobile number of the sender. [View posting dated 20.07.2020 in this website to read the letter.](#)

DENIAL OF PAYMENT OF EX-GRATIA TO A BSNL VRS-2019 RETIREE BY NON-CONSIDERING PRE-APPOINTMENT TRAINING PERIOD OF 52 WEEKS AS SERVICE– AIBSNLREA TAKES UP THE CASE OF SHRI R J CHRISTOPHER GIRIGORI RAJ, RETD SDE, THANJAVUR, TAMILNADU:

AIBSNLREA has taken up the above case with CMD, BSNL since the retiree Shri R J Christopher Girigori Raj, Retd SDE has not been paid Ex-gratia for his pre-appointment training period of 52 weeks which was to be counted towards Ex-gratia and pensionary benefits including Gratuity as confirmed by BSNL Corporate Office vide its F.No. 1-125/2019-PAT (BSNL)-Part dated 22.11.2019. The representation of the retiree to PGM, Thanjavur BA requesting him to make the payment went unheeded. The Association has now requested for intervention of CMD, BSNL, so that the said VRS retiree gets balance of his Ex-gratia payment for full 52 weeks of his training period which is admissible as per Rules. [View posting dated 18.07.2020 in this website to read the letter.](#)

AIBSNLREA QUESTIONS THE PURPOSE AND FUNCTIONING OF BSNL'S PUBLIC GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM POINTING OUT TO ITS DEFICIENCIES WHILE DEALING WITH THE REPRESENTATIONS FROM PENSIONERS' ASSOCIATIONS:

AIBSNLREA has since addressed a letter to CMD, BSNL questioning the very purpose and functioning of "BSNL Public Grievance Redressal Management System" which merely sends computer generated message on e-mail on receipt of communications from Association's e-mail id, addressing the Association as "Customer" and giving a Docket No. for having registered the Grievance with the assurance that BSNL's 'Service Representative will address the issue very soon". The Association has pointed out that the messages do not say anything about the nature of grievance registered or a reference details from the Association and without giving any opportunity to follow the progress and know the status. The Association has asserted that such mechanism is set to increase more grievances than resolving the one and has further requested to ensure that the grievances are properly examined and resolved. [View posting dated 17.07.2020 in this website to read the letter.](#)

AIBSNLREA ADDRESSES MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE & CORPORATE AFFAIRS SEEKING ADVICE IN REGARD TO TREATING OF WRONG CLAIMS MADE BY BSNL AS TO HAVE CREDITED SOME AMOUNT TO THE BSNL IDA PENSIONERS, EVEN THOUGH NO PAYMENT WAS MADE, WHILE THEY FILE THEIR INCOME TAX RETURNS FOR THE ASSESSMENT YEAR 2020-21:

In the background that BSNL has wrongly claimed to have credited some amount to the BSNL IDA pensioners during the financial year 2019-20, without actually making any payment, and even deposited TDS against the same with the Income Tax Department, which have also been posted in Form-26 AS page of the concerned BSNL IDA Pensioners, AIBSNLREA has sought the advice from Minister of State for Finance & Corporate Affairs as to how to treat these amount while filing the Income Tax Return for the financial year 2020-21. The Association has stated that "It may kindly be agreed that while filing Income Tax Returns for the assessment year 2020-21, no BSNL IDA pensioner can include these amounts as income in their Returns which have falsely been claimed to have been credited by BSNL but actually not been received by the pensioners. While it is so, the TDS paid by BSNL will automatically form part of the tax paid. Since all tax payers, i.e. in this case the BSNL IDA Pensioners are to file their Return correctly, such a wrong claim by BSNL Management in Form 26 AS page is set to invite serious trouble to them". The Association has further stated that "Since the issue is very serious in nature, we would like to seek clear advice how to deal with these false claims made by BSNL of having credited some amount to the concerned BSNL IDA pensioners as they would shortly

be required to file their Income Tax Returns for the assessment year 2020-21". [View posting dated 15.07.2020 in this website to read the letter.](#)

AIBSNLREA SENDS IDENTICAL APPEAL TO THIRTY NINE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT BOTH FROM LOK SABHA AND RAJYA SABHA TO USE THEIR GOOD OFFICES WITH PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA SEEKING HIS INTERVENTION TO ADDRESS THE ISSUES CONNECTED WITH BSNLMRS AS RAISED BY THE ASSOCIATION IN ITS SOS MESSAGE DATED 09.07.2020 ALREADY SENT TO HIM:

AIBSNLREA has sent an identical but separate appeal to thirty-nine (39) Members of Parliament from both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha including the LS Speaker and RS Dy Chairman urging them to kindly intervene and use their good offices with Hon'ble Prime Minister of India to whom we were forced to send an SOS MESSAGE [View posting dated 09.07.2020 in this website to read the SOS Message] seeking his intervention against non-reimbursement of Medical Claims for over last one year and other related issues under BSNLMRS to the BSNL IDA Pensioners and thereby leaving the aged BSNL IDA Pensioners, who are mostly patients of chronic diseases, at lurch. Association has also mentioned about drastic reductions ordered in the annual ceiling for Medical claims of BSNL IDA pensioners by BSNL Management going against the BSNL Board approved modified Order issued in 2010 to give partial relief to the past pensioners. The Association has further referred to the assurance given by the Prime Minister in his Message to the Elders issued on 31st March 2015, while acknowledging their requirement of healthy life, that Government would be ensuring that the golden years of the Elders are spent happily, peacefully and meaningfully. [View posting dated 14.07.2020 in this website to read the letter to Speaker, Lok Sabha.](#)

ISSUE OF GUIDELINES AND RATES FOR TREATMENT IN PRIVATE HOSPITALS EMPANELLED UNDER BSNLMRS IN VIEW OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC- AIBSNLREA REQUESTS CMD, BSNL TO CAUSE IMMEDIATE ISSUE OF SIMILAR GUIDELINES/RATES AS ISSUED BY DG, CGHS:

In a letter addressed to CMD, BSNL, AIBSNLREA has requested him to cause immediate issue of similar guidelines/rates for treatment/investigation in private hospitals empanelled under BSNLMRS, as issued by Directorate General of CGHS, vide its F. No. 6-52/CGHS/G.CELL/2020/DIR/CGHS dated 10.07.2020 for the CGHS beneficiaries. The Association has particularly mentioned about the cashless treatment allowed to the pensioners, who are the beneficiaries of CGHS, by the DG, CGHS. [View posting dated 13.07.2020 in this website to read the letter.](#)

AIBSNLREA SENDS AN SOS MESSAGE TO PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA SEEKING HIS INTERVENTION IN THE MATTER OF VIRTUAL DENIAL OF MEDICARE FACILITIES UNDER BSNLMRS TO THE BSNL IDA PENSIONERS AND DRASTIC REDUCTION IN THEIR ANNUAL CEILING LIMIT BY BSNL MANAGEMENT:

AIBSNLREA has since sent an SOS MESSAGE to the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India urging him to come to the rescue of the hapless BSNL IDA pensioners who are virtually being denied any Medicare facility under BSNL Medical Reimbursement Scheme by not reimbursing their Medical Claims for over last one year and are being forced to fend for themselves on this count. Whereas, the same BSNL Management has recently issued instructions to its Circles for making payment only to its serving employees leaving aside the cases of its retired employees. The Association has also pointed out that the BSNL Management has recently drastically reduced the annual ceiling limit for Medical Claims for the BSNL IDA pensioners by reverting back to an old Order issued in 2003 which was later modified with the approval of BSNL Board in 2010 to allow partial relief to the past pensioners

and further imposing new restrictions. The Association has drawn the attention of the Prime Minister to his assurance given to the Elders to take care of their health and mental peace and has urged for his immediate kind intervention to save the aged pensioners, mostly suffering from chronic diseases, who can no longer manage their Healthcare from the meagre pension that they receive which has not been revised for the last 13 years. AIBSNLREA has requested that let the BSNL Management be instructed to immediately reimburse all the pending Medical Claims of the BSNL IDA pensioners and withdraw its Order drastically reducing the annual ceiling limit for outdoor treatment of the pensioners by practically reversing the BSNL Board approved Order issued in 2010 to give partial relief to the past pensioners. [View posting dated 09.07.2020 in this website to read the letter.](#)

AIBSNLREA WRITES TO DIRECTOR (HR), BSNL REQUESTING EARLY FORWARDING OF REVISED PENSION PAPERS OF SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA RASTOGI, RETD DGM, BSNL CORPORATE OFFICE TO CCA, NEW DELHI IN VIEW OF ISSUE OF HIS REVISED RETIREMENT ORDERS: AIBSNLREA has addressed a letter to Director (HR), since the pension and other pensionary benefits of Shri Prakash Chandra Rastogi, Retd DGM, BSNL CO have not been settled even though he retired from service on 31.03.2020. Now that his retirement Order has been modified on 15.06.2020 indicating his correct designation as DGM in place of AGM, date of promotion and fresh VC, the Pension Branch of BSNL Corporate Office needs to prepare his fresh pension papers and forward the same to CCA, New Delhi. The Association has requested him to cause early forwarding of revised pension papers and consequent settlement of this much-delayed case. [View posting dated 08.07.2020 in this website to read the letter.](#)

NON-SETTLEMENT OF THE CASE FOR GRANTING FINAL SUPERANNUATION PENSION ON COMPLETION OF JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS AND SUDDEN STOPPAGE OF PROVISIONAL PENSION- AIBSNLREA AGAIN TAKES UP THE CASE OF SHRI S.B. MOHARE, RETD. ACCOUNTS OFFICER, KARNATAKA CIRCLE WITH SECRETARY (TELECOM): AIBSNLREA has now again sought the intervention of Secretary (Telecom) on the above matters, since no action seems to have been taken so far by Controller of Communication Accounts, Karnataka on the letter from Pension Branch of DOT forwarding the representation dated 12.05.2020 from the Association and advising him to examine the issues for necessary action under intimation to that Branch [View posting dated 17.06.2020 in this website to read the DOT letter]. The Association has pointed out that even though the case for granting final superannuation pension remained unsettled, payment of his provisional pension has also been stopped since March, 2020. The Association has further requested for early settlement of the issues. [View posting dated 07.07.2020 in this website to read the letter.](#)

AIBSNLREA SEEKS INTERVENTION OF PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA TO RESCIND THE DISCRIMINATORY ORDER ISSUED BY BSNL MANAGEMENT TO DENY REIMBURSEMENT OF MEDICAL CLAIMS OF BSNL IDA PENSIONERS BUT ALLOWING THE SERVING EMPLOYEES ALONE TO RECEIVE THEIR CLAIMS: AIBSNLREA has sought the intervention of Prime Minister of India to render justice to the BSNL IDA pensioners, since BSNL Management has issued a discriminatory Order to its Circles asking them to get ready to make payment of pending medical claims only of the serving employees as on roll on 30.06.2020 along with their June, 2020 salary, but denying reimbursement of medical claims under the same BSNLMRS to the BSNL IDA pensioners whose claims for reimbursement are pending with BSNL for over a year.

The Association has also pointed out that it is yet to receive any response to its earlier representations to Secretary (Telecom) and others seeking their intervention vide its letters No. AIBSNLREA/CHQ/2020/47 dated 18.06.2020 and No. AIBSNLREA/CHQ/2020/51 dated 29.06.2020 in the matter of non-reimbursement of long pending medical claims of the BSNL IDA pensioners and also about another instruction issued by BSNL Management to all its Circles, vide its No. BSNL/ERP/FICO/2018-19 dated 25.07.2019, not to post all claims of the retired officials in the SAP system and accordingly to block the medical liability creation of retired officials in SAP from 25th July 2019 to October 2019. The Association has again urged Prime Minister of India to kindly intervene in the matter so that no discrimination is meted out to the BSNL IDA pensioners by BSNL Management on the issue of reimbursement of their long pending medical claims. [View posting dated 03.07.2020 in this website to read the letter](#)

AIBSNLREA WRITES TO CHIEF GRIEVANCE OFFICER, UNION BANK OF INDIA REGARDING NON-CREDITING OF PROVISIONAL PENSION SINCE MARCH 2020 IN THE SAVINGS BANK ACCOUNT OF SHRI SHRIKANT B MOHARE, RETD AO, KARNATAKA CIRCLE: AIBSNLREA has since addressed a letter to Chief Grievance Officer, Union Bank of India, Mumbai regarding non-crediting of provisional pension since March 2020 in the Savings Bank Account of Shri Shrikant B Mohare, Retd AO, Gulbarga TD by the CPPC, Mumbai. Requested to direct CPPC-telecom, Union Bank of India, Mumbai to immediately credit the provisional pension of last four months in the Pension Account of Shri Mohare, Retd AO. [View posting dated 02.07.2020 in this website to read the letter.](#)

RESPONSE TO AIBSNLREA'S REPRESENTATIONS

PROVISION OF GSM CONNECTIONS IN LIEU OF CONCESSIONAL RESIDENTIAL TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS TO THE RETIRED BSNL EMPLOYEES RESIDING IN TNF AREAS- BSNL NOW SENDS STATUS REPORT TO AIBSNLREA: The above issue was taken up and vigorously pursued at all levels only by AIBSNLREA. The AIC Madurai held in November 2019 at Madurai had also adopted a Resolution on this issue which was subsequently submitted to the Prime Minister of India. This was registered as Grievance by PMO and forwarded to DOT for action. With great dilly-dallying, BSNL finally conceded to the demand and issued the necessary Orders on 03.01.2020 which was duly posted in this website on the same day itself. Subsequently, a clarification was issued by BSNL on 20.03.2020 which was also posted in this website on 25.03.2020. Now, a Status Report from BSNL, vide its No. BSNLCO-ADMN/18-5/2020-ADMN dated 09.06.2020, on the matter has been received. [View posting dated 16.07.2020 in this website to read the BSNL letter.](#)

CCA MAHARASHTRA RESPONDS TO THE REPRESENTATION OF AIBSNLREA REGARDING NON-TRANSFER OF GPF BALANCE OF SHRI CHANNAPPA M UROLOGIN, RETD JTO, MAHARASHTRA CIRCLE- ISSUES REMINDER TO ACCOUNTS OFFICER (CLAIMS), KOLHAPUR: In response to the representation of AIBSNLREA to Member (Finance), Telecom Commission [View posting dated 13.03.2020 in this website to read the letter], which was registered in the pg portal of DOP&PW, the Controller of Communication Accounts, Maharashtra has issued a reminder to AO(Claims), Kolhapur to send all GPF ledgers from 01.04.1998 to 31.03.2016 to enable the CCA Office to examine the case. Copy of this reminder letter has also been endorsed to AIBSNLREA. [View posting dated 05.07.2020 in this website to read the CCA MH letter.](#)

GOVERNMENT/BSNL ORDERS

DOT ISSUES SPECIAL MESSAGE FOR THE PENSIONERS WHOSE LIFE CERTIFICATE EXPIRED IN JUNE 2020 AND ALSO FOR THOSE WHOSE LIFE CERTIFICATE EXPIRES IN JULY 2020- ALLOWS SUBMISSION OF LIFE CERTIFICATE LATEST BY 30TH SEPTEMBER 2020: DOT has issued an order, vide its No. 47-15/TA-II/CPMS/20158/Part-I/2050-86 dated 23.07.2020, which carries an message for the pensioners, whose Life Certificate expired in June 2020 and also for those pensioners whose Life Certificate is expiring in July 2020 and who could not submit their Life Certificate due to Covid-19 pandemic. Now, these pensioners will have to submit their Life Certificate before 30th September 2020 failing which their pension after August 2020 will be stopped. Though, it is not clarified in the Order, it seems that this Order is in respect of those pensioners who receive their pension through CPMS. [View posting dated 25.07.2020 in this website to read the DOT Order.](#)

BSNL ISSUES ORDERS TO FURNISH ASSESSMENT GRADING OF ACRs/APRs FOR CONDUCT OF REVIEW DPC FOR SDEs(T) TO AGMs(T) PROMOTED AGAINST THE DPC HELD IN THE YEAR 2009: BSNL, vide its No. BSNLCO-PERS/13(25)/2020-PERSI dated 21.07.2020, has issued Orders asking the Circles to forward the screening committee report including the assessment grading of five years/APRs (2002-03 to 2006-07) in respect of 454 SDEs as per an enclosed list. This Review DPC is said to be in connection with compliance of Supreme Court Order in Rule-206 Seniority Case of the TES Group B Officers. [View posting dated 23.07.2020 in this website to read the BSNL Order.](#)

DOP&PW ISSUES ORDERS FOR THE MEASURES TO BE TAKEN TO AVOID GRIEVANCES FOR INACCURATE AND DELAYED GPF SETTLEMENT ALONG WITH INTEREST OF THE RETIRED GOVERNMENT SERVANTS: Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare has issued Orders, vide its No. 3/7/2020-P&PW(Desk-F)-F.6574 dated 17.07.2020, regarding the steps to be taken to avoid grievances from the retired Government servants for inaccurate and delayed GPF settlement along with interest due to frequent instances of missing credits in their GPF Accounts. DOP&PW, accordingly, for the sake of avoiding such grievances and greater transparency has ordered that henceforth " (i) It shall be mandatory for all offices maintaining GPF Accounts to intimate the particulars of missing credits, once every financial year, to the authority responsible for deducting GPF subscription, under intimation to the concerned subscriber. (ii) A complete statement of all credits, debits and interest, since inception of the GPF account, shall be provided to every subscriber, mandatorily two years before his date of retirement and thereafter one year before the date of retirement. Any subscriber can make a representation on such statement provided to him and the office maintaining the GPF account shall resolve the grievance within 60 days from the date of receipt of such a grievance". [View posting dated 21.07.2020 in this website to read the DOP&PW Order.](#)

PAYMENT OF FOURTH INSTALMENT OF EX-GRATIA TO THE BSNL VRS-2019 RETIREES- BSNL ISSUES ORDERS ADVISING THE CIRCLES/ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS TO COMPLETE THE ACTIVITIES INVOLVED AT THE EARLIEST: Expecting that DOT would soon sanction fund for payment of fourth instalment of Ex-gratia to the BSNL VRS-2019 retirees, BSNL has issued an Order, vide F.No. BSNLCO-A/11(11)/11/2020-ESTAB dated 20.07.2020, advising all the Telecom Circles and Other Administrative Units to complete certain activities at the earliest

apparently to avoid delay in payment. [View posting dated 20.07.2020 in this website to read the BSNL Order.](#)

DOP&PW ISSUES ORDERS FOR PROVISIONAL RELEASE OF RETIREMENT BENEFITS AS PER RULE 64 OF CCS (PENSION) RULES 1972 DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC TIME: Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare has issued Orders, vide its No. 12/9/2020-P&PW(C)-6450 dated 17.07.2020, allowing provisional release of retirement benefits as per Rule 64 of CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972 during COVID-19 pandemic time to the Government Officials likely to retire before finalization and authorization of their pension and gratuity due to delay in submission of pension form and also the Head Office not able to forward the claim form in hard copy along with Service Book to the concerned Pay & Accounts Officers in time. Rule 64 of CCS (Pension) Rules 1972 provides for sanction of provisional pension and provisional gratuity in cases where a Government servant is likely to retire before finalization of his pension and gratuity. [View posting dated 19.07.2020 in this website to read the DOP&PW Order.](#)

CBDT ISSUES ORDERS ALLOWING ONE-TIME RELAXATION FOR VERIFICATION OF TAX-RETURNS FOR THE ASSESSMENT YEARS 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19 AND 2019-20 WHICH ARE PENDING DUE TO NON-FILING OF ITR-V FORM AND PROCESSING OF SUCH RETURNS: Central Board of Direct Taxes has issued Orders, vide its F.No.225/59/2020/ITA-II dated 13.07.2020, allowing one-time relaxation for verification of Income Tax Returns for the assessment years 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20 which were submitted electronically but are pending due to non-receipt of valid ITR-V form at CPC, Bengaluru. This Order is applicable only in respect of the Tax Payers who filed Returns without digital signature and opted for verification by sending duly signed physical copy of the ITR-V and not by other permissible means including Aadhar OTP. [View posting dated 15.07.2020 in this website to read the CBDT Order.](#)

DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF CGHS ISSUES DETAILED GUIDELINES AND RATES FOR TREATMENT/INVESTIGATION AT PRIVATE HEALTHCARE ORGANIZATIONS EMPANELLED UNDER CGHS IN VIEW OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC: Directorate General of CGHS, vide its No. 6-52/CGHS/G.CELL/2020/DIR/CGHS dated 10.07.2020, has issued detailed guidelines and rates for treatment and investigations in private healthcare organizations empanelled under CGHS for the CGHS beneficiaries in view of COVID-19 pandemic. For COVID-19 treatment for the CGHS beneficiaries in the CGHS cities, the package rates announced by the concerned State Government will be applicable. In case no such rates have been prescribed by the State Government in any CGHS city, the rates prescribed by the Govt. of NCT Delhi will be applicable till rates are prescribed by the concerned State Government. The Order also contains other important guidelines including that the treatment for the pensioners would be on cashless basis. [View posting dated 11.07.2020 in this website to read the DG, CGHS Order.](#)

DOT ISSUES ORDERS COVEYING SANCTION OF ANOTHER FIVE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED SEVENTY EIGHT CRORE SIXTY FIVE LAKHS TO BSNL FOR FURTHER PAYMENT OF EX-GRATIA TO THE BSNL VRS-2019 RETIREES: DOT has issued Orders, vide its F.No. 30-4/2019-PSU Affairs (Pt.II) dated 10.07.2020, conveying sanction of competent authority for another Rupees Five Thousand Two Hundred Seventy Eight Crore Sixty Five Lakhs rupees (Rs. 5278.65 crores) to BSNL for ex-gratia payment to the BSNL VRS optee employees. DOT has further

ordered that BSNL should consume the funds by making payments for ex-gratia on or before 31st July 2020 and also ensure that the amount is spent only for payment of ex-gratia. [View posting dated 10.07.2020 in this website to read the DOT Order.](#)

DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF CGHS FURTHER EXTENDS THE VALIDITY PERIOD OF ALREADY EMPANELLED HEALTH CARE ORGANIZATIONS UNDER CGHS UP TO 30.09.2020: Directorate General of Central Government Health Scheme, vide its F. No. S-11045/36/2016-CGHS (HEC) dated 29.06.2020, has ordered further extension of all existing empanelled health care organizations under CGHS till 30.09.2020 or till next empanelment whichever is earlier on same terms and conditions and rates on which they are presently empanelled. The Order further provides that all hospitals and diagnostic centres shall charge NABL rates only for those investigation conducted by them which are NABL accredited. For all other investigations, non-NABL rates will be charged. [View posting dated 01.07.2020 in this website to read the DG, CGHS Order.](#)

STATEMENT OF AMOUNT RECEIVED DURING JULY 2020

Shri Prakash Chandra Rastogi, Retd DGM, BSNL Corporate Office deposited Rupees Five hundred fifty (Rs. 550/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 27.07.2020 towards Life Membership Fee and Admission Fee.

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