



Editorial

AND QUIET FLOWS THE DON

When AIBSNLREA was launched in the year 2008, much ahead of any other association for BSNL pensioners, we were conscious of the need for an association exclusively for BSNL Retired Executives. Though there can be no more categorisation as Executives and Non-Executives after retirement, the issues and concerns unique to Executives continue to remain even after their retirement. Many post-retirement entitlements were continuation of categorisation while in service. But we never imagined that there would be such a plethora of issues faced by retired BSNL Executives. Non-settlement of individual grievances arising out of their official position during service as an Executive are also aplenty. Of course, common issues like pension revision, resolution of issues related to 78.2% fitment w.e.f. 1.1.2007 and non-reimbursement of medical bills continue to haunt the minds of the Executives too, in which inaction/wrong action by recognised unions and associations has caused all the damage.

Unlike trade unions and associations of serving employees, pensioners associations do not have either recognition or any channel of communication. There are no periodical meetings, either formal or informal with the management/department. There is no obligation on the part of the management/department to reply to us. But we have every right to write to the

concerned authorities on our issues, seeking to get them resolved. AIBSNLREA has therefore effectively used this by presenting the issues with clarity and quoting relevant rules/orders to substantiate our claims. While we got response in many cases and the issues were resolved, some other cases were resolved even without any written response to us. In this process, AIBSNLREA has established itself as an organisation which resolves issues through its studied arguments and communicating skills. And there is no dearth of such cases, especially individual cases which had been pending for decades during the service of the pensioner.

When the Corona Pandemic struck the country and hampered even the minimum interaction with the authorities and postal communication coming to a standstill, AIBSNLREA did not rest on its oars, citing the pandemic. It found alternate way of communicating, effectively using the email route. When most other departments responded positively to our emails, DoT and BSNL continued with their state of slumber. We then chose to invoke the already existing CPGRAMS and CPENGRAMS to put pressure on DoT and BSNL. We never hesitated to use whatever avenue was available, including writing to PM and CJI. We have been utilising the RTI provisions too to find what action is being taken on

our representations. But BSNL and its units continued to show lethargy and indifference towards the grievances of the pensioners. Undeterred by this apathy by BSNL and its units AIBSNLREA racked up the issues time and again, through more and more indisputable reasoning, justification, explanation and evidence which finally resulted in positive resolution of the grievances in most cases. But still DoT and BSNL continue to evade resolution of some issues with irrelevant and irresponsible responses. So, we have now started having recourse to a recent OM issued by DoP&PW wherein it has been reassured that DoP&PW is periodically analysing closed Grievances wherever it is observed that Grievances were closed by the offices without taking appropriate final action.

In contrast with the unions and associations of the serving employees, the common trade union practices like strike, dharna, hunger strike, demonstration etc by the pensioners' associations are neither practicable nor do have any tangible impact, though demonstration or mass dharna sometimes receive some attention from the concerned administration. Some pensioners' associations give such calls now and then to keep their members in good spirits. AIBSNLREA will continue its journey, evolving new methods and finding new options to resolve the issues of its members, calm and unshaken in the endeavour, like a free-flowing river finding its way around hurdles. ■



Important Developments of the Month

- The Madras High Court has ordered that while replying to Right to Information (RTI) Act applications, the public information officers, appellate authorities as well as officials of Information Commission must sign in every page and provide their Aadhaar number too so that action can be taken for furnishing false information. The orders were passed while disposing of a writ petition filed by an individual M. Sittarasu in 2020.
- According to media reports, BSNL saw a consistent growth in subscriber market share in the last few years. In FY17, the telco had a subscriber market share of 8.6% which grew to 9.4% in FY18, then to 9.9% in FY2019, and then to 10.3% in FY2020.
- The case of maintenance of MTNL Mobile network by BSNL as an outsourced agency has already been agreed by BSNL & MTNL Board. Operation of Delhi Mobile network has already been handed over to BSNL w.e.f. 1st April 2021. Now the operation of MTNL Mumbai Mobile network is to be taken over by BSNL w.e.f. 01.09.2021.
- Shri V.P.Arya, AGS AIBSNLREA met the new General Manager (Admin) on 04.08.2021 and discussed the issue in detail. GM (Admin) agreed with our contention that option is required only where there is change in bank details and

where the pensioner wants to change the option. He assured to take action as required within the next few days. AGS then met DGM (Admin) also and ascertained that the matter will be put up to GM (Admin) shortly. We expect clarificatory orders to be issued in a day or two. Shri V.P.Arya, AGS, also handed over a copy of our letter on our proposal for Health Insurance Policy for BSNL retired employees to the new GM (Admin), who has agreed to get our proposal examined.



Issues taken up

27.08.2021: AIBSNLREA WRITES TO SECRETARY (PENSION), DoP&PW REQUESTING TO ALLOW SUBMISSION OF LIFE CERTIFICATE W.E.F. 1ST OCTOBER EVERY YEAR FOR PENSIONERS ABOVE 70 YEARS OF AGE:

DoP&PW vide its OM No.I/20/2018-P&PW (E) dated 18.07.2019, had conveyed the decision that senior pensioners aged 80 years and above be allowed to give their Life Certificate w.e.f. 1st October every year instead of November which would be valid till 30th November of the subsequent year. AIBSNLREA has written to the Secretary (Pension), DoP&PW requesting that pensioners aged 70 years and above be allowed to give their Life Certificate w.e.f. 1st October every year instead of November which would be valid till 30th November of the subsequent year, since the pensioners will face more difficulties due to the pandemic still around and consequent risk involved in crowding. AIBSNLREA has also requested that in addition, like last year, all the Pensioners may be allowed to submit Life Certificate from 1st November 2021 onward till 31st December 2021 and the pensioners in the age group of 70 years and above may submit Life certificate from 1st October 2021 onwards till 31st December 2021. [_View the letter](#)

23.08.2021: AIBSNLREA WRITES AGAIN TO THE CENTRAL REGISTRAR COOPERATIVE SOCIETIES ON THE SERIOUS STATE OF AFFAIRS IN THE GOVERNMENT TELECOM EMPLOYEES' COOPERATIVE SOCIETY CHENNAI, RESULTING IN NON-SETTLEMENT OF DUES OF ITS MEMBERS WHO HAVE RETIRED FROM SERVICE AND CEASED TO BE THE MEMBERS SINCE LONG, REQUESTING HIS INTERVENTION TO END THE PLIGHT OF THE PENSIONERS:

AIBSNLREA had earlier brought to the notice of all concerned, including the Central Registrar Cooperative Societies, vide letters No.AIBSNLREA/CHQ/2020/39 dated 25.05.2020 and AIBSNLREA/CHQ/2020/121 dated 13.10.2020, about the high handed attitude of the above named Society, by refusing to pay the dues of its members who have retired long back and thereby ceased to be its members but brazenly recovering huge amounts as its dues even without adjusting the assets of the members available with the society. After more than a year now, the situation is still worse, with the hundreds of past members of the society, those who ceased to be members after their retirement, remain clueless as to when will they get back their dues running to lakhs of rupees for each individual. AIBSNLREA therefore has again sought the intervention of the Central Registrar drawing his attention to the Constitution 97th Amendment through which Part IXB under the chapter heading 'The Co-operative Societies' was introduced, "the Central Government has committed to ensure that the co-operative

societies in the country function in a democratic, professional, autonomous and economically sound manner” and therefore the Central Registrar cannot remain a silent spectator and should intervene immediately to ensure that the pensioners’ plight comes to an end. [View the letter](#)

20.08.2021: AIBSNLREA WRITES TO THE SECRETARY PENSION, DoP&PW ON NON-IMPLEMENTATION OF ORDERS OF SUPREME COURT OF INDIA IN CA No.4389 OF 2010 IN EXTENDING THE CONSEQUENTIAL BENEFITS TO THE JTOs QUALIFIED IN TES GROUP B QUALIFYING EXAMINATION AND WERE PROMOTED TO DE GRADE ON ADHOC BASIS BY THE DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS BEFORE FORMATION OF BSNL:

Having no response to its earlier representation addressed to the Secretary, DoT, AIBSNLREA now has sought the intervention of the Secretary (Pension), DoP&PW, pointing out that both BSNL and DoT are silent over extending the benefits to those who were promoted prior to formation of BSNL and has requested him to impress upon DoT and BSNL to extend the benefits to them. [View the letter](#)

20.08.2021: AIBSNLREA WRITES TO THE CMD BSNL ON DELAY IN IMPLEMENTATION OF ORDER OF SUPREME COURT OF INDIA IN CA No.4389 OF 2010 IN EXTENDING THE CONSEQUENTIAL BENEFITS TO THE JTOs QUALIFIED IN TES GROUP B QUALIFYING EXAMINATION AND WERE PROMOTED TO DE/AGM GRADE, BASED ON THE REVISED SENIORITY LIST:

AIBSNLREA has written to the CMD BSNL that after writing to all circles on 16.07.2019 indicating therein that BSNL is about to process the case for extending the consequential benefits, as ordered by the Supreme Court, listing 162 promotion orders issued by BSNL, only one of the promotion order issued on 14.10.2009 has been processed till now. AIBSNLREA has requested CMD to kindly bestow his personal attention and cause review DPCs in respect of all the other promotion orders issued by BSNL. [View the letter](#)

13.08.2021: AIBSNLREA WRITES TO THE CHAIRMAN CBDT REGARDING DELAY IN ISSUE OF FORM 16/16A BY BANKS AND EMPLOYERS AND REQUESTING EXTENSION OF LAST DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF IT RETURNS:

AIBSNLREA has written to the Chairman, CBDT requesting him to issue directions that the banks/employers should send the Form 16/16A to the senior citizens/pensioners either through post or email and the last date for filing IT returns is further extended to 31st October 2021, keeping in mind the non-receipt/delayed receipt of Form 16/16A and the time required to prepare and submit the returns after receipt of Form 16/16A. [View the letter](#)

13.08.2021: AIBSNLREA WRITES TO DIRECTOR (F) BSNL REQUESTING PAYMENT OF CLAIMS FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF MTNL TELEPHONE BILLS FOR THE PENSIONERS RESIDING IN DELHI AND HAVING MTNL RESIDENTIAL CONNECTIONS UNDER RE-DOT CATEGORY WHICH ARE PENDING SINCE THE YEAR 2019:

AIBSNLREA has written to Director (F) BSNL drawing her attention to the fact that the claims for reimbursement of telephone bills for pensioners residing in Delhi and having MTNL residential landline connections under RE-DOT category remain unpaid since the

year 2019 and requesting her to ensure payment of pending claims without further delay. [View the letter](#) [View the addendum to the letter](#)

12.08.2021: AIBSNLREA WRITES TO DIRECTOR (HR) SEEKING HIS INTERVENTION TO REMOVE CONFUSION AND DISCREPANCY IN CONCESSION ALLOWED FOR BROADBAND CONNECTION TO RETIRED ERSTWHILE DOT EMPLOYEES:

AIBSNLREA had earlier taken up the issue with the CGM, ITPC, Pune drawing his attention to discrepancies in broadband bills of BSNL pensioners residing in Chennai Telephones area for the billing period 1.6.2021 to 30.6.2021 in respect of concession available to BSNL retired employees for broadband connection at their residences, pointing out that the concession allowed hitherto of 60% has been reduced wrongly to 10%. As there has been no response or action by CGM ITPC Pune, AIBSNLREA has now drawn the attention of Director (HR) BSNL, conveying our apprehension that the above said discrepancies are a fallout of incorrect interpretation of the recent BSNL Circular on concession for FTTH connection and confusion in categorization of 60% concession in broadband available to retired erstwhile DoT employees and the 10% concession available to employees of Government departments/PSUs. [View the letter](#)

12.08.2021: AIBSNLREA WRITES TO SECRETARY (PENSION), DoP&PW SEEKING REMOVAL OF DISCRIMINATION ARISING OUT OF DENIAL OF OPTION TO GROUP C EMPLOYEES OF DOT TO RETAIN CDA PAY SCALE TILL THEIR PROMOTION AFTER 01.10.2000, THE DATE OF FORMATION OF BSNL:

AIBSNLREA had earlier taken up the issue of non-allowing of option to retain CDA pay scale till date of promotion after formation of BSNL to Group C and D employees while the same was offered to the Group A&B officers, without success. Now it has been brought to our notice that discrimination exists not only between the employees and officers but also among the employees themselves, leading to a situation wherein senior employees of Group "C" level are drawing lesser pension than their junior Group "C" level employees who have been allowed the benefit of option and got their fixed at higher stages while in service. AIBSNLREA has written to Secretary (Pension), DoP&PW requesting his intervention. [View the letter](#)

11.08.2021: AIBSNLREA WRITES TO CGMT KARNATAKA CIRCLE REQUESTING RELEASING OF WITHHELD EX-GRATIA, GRANT OF TIME BOUND UPGRADATIONS AND RELEASING OF GRATUITY AND CVP IN VIEW OF QUASHING OF CHARGESHEET BY CAT BANGALORE - CASE OF SHRI B M NYAMATI RETD CAO BANGALORE TELECOM DISTRICT:

After getting the Leave encashment released in respect of Shri B M Nyamati, Retd CAO Bangalore Telecom District, AIBSNLREA had been pursuing release of his withheld ex-gratia. Now that Hon'ble CAT Bangalore has quashed the chargesheet pending against him, we have now written to the CGMT, Karnataka Circle to initiate action for issue of final retirement orders, consequent release of withheld ex-gratia, grant of two time bound promotions and release of gratuity and commutation in view of his attaining the age of 60 years. [View the letter](#)

11.08.2021: AIBSNLREA RESPONDS TO DPE REMARKS THAT DPE DOES NOT ISSUE DA RATES FOR WORKMEN AND PENSIONERS OF CPSEs:

AIBSNLREA has responded to the DPE remarks by submitting that "though it is true that DPE does not issue DA rates for workmen and pensioners for CPSEs, it is also a fact that BSNL pensioners are paid IDA pension and other pensionary benefits by the Government of India under CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972 and the IDA rates issued by the DPE apply to them for release of Dearness Relief. The DoT has even issued guidelines to its CCAs to release Industrial Dearness Relief by downloading the orders available on DPE website." AIBSNLREA has also pointed out an inadvertent error in the letter where the effective date of restored IDA is shown as 01.01.2017 instead of 01.07.2021 and has requested issue of a corrigendum. [View the letter](#)

07.08.2021: AIBSNLREA'S RELENTLESS EFFORTS TO GET CCA GOA & MAHARASHTRA AND CGMT MAHARASHTRA CIRCLE TO ACT TOGETHER TO RESOLVE THE ISSUE OF NON-PAYMENT OF PART OF THE GPF AMOUNT OF SHRI C M UROLGIN, RETD JTO. KOLHAPUR FOR THE PERIOD HE WORKED IN WTP, MUMBAI, RESULT IN SUCCESSFUL RESOLUTION OF THE ISSUE:

AIBSNLREA had been relentlessly pursuing the above case since long. Finally, the issue has been settled in favour of the affected member. Shri Urolgin has since received his unpaid GPF amount of Rs. 472896/- only against the period he worked in Western Telecom Project.

02.08.2021: AIBSNLREA WRITES TO DIRECTOR (HR) BSNL REQUESTING ISSUE OF CLARIFICATION TO BSNL letter No.BSNLCO/4/2021-ESTT FIN dated 07.07.2021:

Earlier AIBSNLREA had written to Director (HR) requesting withdrawal of the letter, else to modify it so as to necessitate submission of option only by those who want to change from one scheme to other and submission of details/documents only by those for whom there have been any change/changes. Subsequent to that, Chennai Telephones and Tamilnadu Circles have issued orders requiring fresh option to be submitted only by those whose bank account number and IFSC have changed due to merger of banks and those who want to change the option. Gujarat and Kerala Circles are also reported to have issued similarly worded orders. As all these orders have been issued with reference to BSNL letter cited above and carry similar text, it is believed that they have issued orders with the concurrence of Corporate Office. Non-issue of similar order by other Circles have created confusion and concern among the pensioners of those circles. Therefore, AIBSNLREA has again written to Director (HR) for immediate issue of clarification that option is required to be submitted only by those who want to change from one scheme to other and submission of details/documents only by those for whom there have been any change/changes as the last date mentioned in BSNL letter referred to above, 10.08.2021, is fast approaching. [View the letter](#)



GOVERNMENT / BSNL ORDERS &
LETTERS

21.08.2021: DEPARTMENT OF POSTS ISSUES ORDERS ALLOWING WITHDRAWAL /LOAN/CLOSURE/PREMATURE CLOSURE OF ACCOUNTS IN POST OFFICES THROUGH AUTHORISED PERSON:

Responding to representations about difficulties faced by Senior Citizens of people suffering with illness, Department of Posts has issued orders that in case of extreme exigencies (i.e. Senior Citizens or illness of account holder or suffering from physical infirmity or is with differently abled conditions), the withdrawal or loan or account closure or premature closure may be allowed through authorised person and has laid down the procedure to be followed. [View the Dept. of Posts letter](#)

13.08.2021: DoP&PW ISSUES FRESH AND IMPORTANT GUIDELINES FOR TIMELY AND QUALITATIVE DISPOSAL OF PENSIONERS' GRIEVANCES:

DoP&PW vide its OM No.17/3/2021-P&PW(Coord.) E 7179 dated 6th August 2021 has issued fresh guidelines for timely and qualitative disposal of pensioners' grievances. The grievances are to be resolved within 45 days and in respect of family pensioner/super senior pensioner (above 80 years) the grievance should be resolved within 30 days. EVERY GRIEVANCE SHALL BE CLOSED ONLY AFTER ITS FINAL RESOLUTION. If it pertains to subordinate/attached office, the case may be forwarded to the concerned office but should not be closed until final action is taken. The responsibility lies with the Ministry/Department to follow up the matter with the subordinate/attached units for final resolution. If the grievance is disposed of in favour of the pensioner, the option 'Accepted' shall be indicated. In other cases, a speaking order shall be passed giving reasons for rejection/partial acceptance and als uploaded in the portal. Ministries/Departments/Organisations shall identify core grievance prone areas and streamline their systems to eliminate root cause of grievances. [View the DoP&PW OM](#)

09.08.2021: BSNL ISSUES CLARIFICATION REGARDING REVALIDATION OF BSNL MEDICAL CARD AND PAYMENT OF MEDICAL CASH ALLOWANCE WITHOUT VOUCHER FACILITY TO RETIRED EMPLOYEES:

It was AIBSNLREA which immediately reacted when BSNL vide its letter dated 07.07.2021 required all retired employees to furnish fresh option both for allowance without voucher and claims with voucher along with so many documents already available with the SSAs, and requested Director (HR) to cause "issue of clarification that option is required to be submitted only by those who want to change from one scheme to other and submission of details/documents only by those for whom there have been any change/changes." BSNL has issued the long awaited letter clarifying that all retirees who have submitted their option for the financial year 2020-21 need not submit fresh option for FY 2020-21 and fresh option for the current financial year need to be submitted by only those retired BSNLMRS beneficiaries who have not submitted option or revalidated their BSNLMRS card earlier and whose bank account or contact details are changed. [View the BSNL letter](#)

05.08.2021: BSNL ENDORSES DPE ORDERS RESTORING IDA PROSPECTIVELY W.E.F. 1.7.2021:

BSNL has endorsed the DPE OM vide F.No. W-02/0002/2014-DPE(WC)-GL-III/2021 dated 2nd August 2021, restoring the IDA frozen w.e.f. 01.10.2020, 01.01.2021 and 01.04.2021, prospectively w.e.f. 01.07.2021. [View the BSNL letter](#)

02.08.2021: DPE ISSUES ORDERS FOR PAYMENT OF IDA AT REVISED RATES W.E.F. 01.07.2021:

DPE has issued orders revising the rate of IDA to the executives and non-unionised supervisors of CPSEs (2007 pay revision) from 159.9% to 170.5% w.e.f. 01.07.2021. The increase subsumes the additional installments arising on 01.10.2020, 01.01.2021 and 01.04.2021. The rate of DA for the period from 01.10.2020 till 30.06.2021 shall remain at 159.9%. [View the DPE letter](#)



RESPONSE/ACTION TAKEN ON AIBSNLREA'S REPRESENTATIONS

24.08.2021: BSNL RESPONDS TO AIBSNLREA LETTER DATED 31.07.2021 REQUESTING FOR FORMULATING A HEALTH INSURANCE POLICY FOR BSNL RETIRED EMPLOYEES:

Following notification on 30.07.2021 by BSNL of a Health Insurance Policy for BSNL employees, AIBSNLREA had written to Director (HR) for formulating a Health Insurance Policy for BSNL retired employees, with the premium paid by BSNL. [View the AIBSNLREA letter](#) BSNL has now responded to our letter stating that a Group Health Insurance policy for retired employees is not technically feasible through BSNL as deduction of premium by BSNL is not possible. It adds that the issue raised by us is a policy matter and our suggestions have been noted. [View the BSNL response](#)

16.08.2021: ITPC PUNE RESPONDS TO AIBSNLREA LETTER DATED 15.07.2021 ON DISCREPANCY IN BROADBAND BILLS OF BSNL PENSIONERS RESIDING UNDER CHENNAI TELEPHONE AREA:

AIBSNLREA had written to CGM ITPC Pune on 15.07.2021 pointing out discrepancy in broadband bill for the period 1.6.2021 to 30.6.2021 wherein only 10% concession had been allowed instead of the 60% hitherto allowed and had requested remedial action. CGM ITPC has now responded with the reply from DE (Admin) SDE Hyderabad. This letter states that 60% discount scheme is inactivated and 10% discount is activated against 279 Retired DOT connections w.e.f. 01.06.2021 as per data available in SZ CDR database and that if any connection referred to by AIBSNLREA belongs to retired BSNL officials, the concerned SSA may attach the applicable discount after verifying the records and the same may be updated in SZ CDR system also. [View the reply from ITPC Pune](#)

11.08.2021: DPE RESPONDS TO AIBSNLREA LETTER DATED 28.07.2021 REGARDING RESTORATION OF IDA:

AIBSNLREA had written to the Secretary, DPE expressing concern over delay in issue of orders for restoration of IDA w.e.f. 1.7.2021. In response, DPE has now informed us that orders have been issued vide OMs dated 02.08.2021 & 03.08.2021. It has further stated that "DPE does not issue DA rates for workmen and pensioners of CPSEs." [View the DPE letter](#)

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05.08.2021: DEPARTMENT OF POSTS RESPONDS TO AIBSNLREA LETTER REQUESTING ISSUE OF PENSION SLIPS BY POST OFFICES:

AIBSNLREA vide its letter dated 09.07.2021 had written to Secretary, Department of Posts requesting instructions for issue of Pension slip to the pensioners drawing pension through Post Offices, citing DoP&PW OM dated 22-06-2021 requesting Pension Disbursing Banks to issue pension slips through SMS and email. Department of Posts has now responded stating that pension is disbursed through HR module of CSI and a system generated message is sent to the respective registered mobile number of the pensioner/family pensioner immediately. Pensioners whose mobile is not registered in CSI do not receive such messages. The matter is forwarded to FS Division so that such provisions may be enabled in POSB in consultation with CEPT. Also the provision will be circulated to all field units advising them to populate mobile number in the PPOs, so that message can be sent to the pensioners from CSI system itself. [View the Dept of Posts letter](#)

BRANCHES IN ACTION



26.08.2021: GB MEETING OF AIBSNLREA KURUKSHETRA BRANCH HELD: A General Body Meeting of AIBSNLREA KURUKSHETRA Branch was held on 25.8.2021 at Haryana

Tourism's Yatri Niwas Kurukshetra. At the very outset tributes were paid to the memory of one of our active members, late Shri Ashok Kapoor who succumbed to Corona a few months back. A two minutes silence was observed for grant of peace to the departed soul. Shri D S Sandhu OSN who is also a member of this branch briefed the members of the efforts made at CHQ level by the General Secretary to resolve pending issues. The status of cases like medical bills reimbursement, notional increment due on next day of retirement, 78.2 IDA arrears court case, FTTH plan discount, CGHS enrollment, wage & pension revision, freezing/restoration of IDA and many more issues were discussed in detail. The vigorous efforts made by Shri Basu GS despite his prolonged illness were appreciated. Due to large number of pensioners joining CGHS a demand was projected by some members for setting of CGHS wellness Center at Kurukshetra and for empanelment of more hospitals at/around Kurukshetra. The members expressed their concern about the prolonged illness of State secretary shri Jogi Ram's wife and about medical condition of Life member Shri Sushil Kumar Aggarwal who had undergone surgery for his oral cancer and wished for their early recovery. 11 retired executives who were invited to attend the meeting also joined as life members. The meeting was concluded with a vote of thanks followed by lunch for the participants.

19.08.2021: GB MEETING OF AMBALA BRANCH OF AIBSNLREA HELD: A general body meeting of Ambala Branch of AIBSNLREA was held on 18th August 2021 at Delhi Darbar Restaurant. The meeting was conducted under the Presidentship of Shri K L. Gakhar as Shri Prithvi Chand President was not present in the meeting due to certain preoccupations. The meeting was attended by 38 members. Last physical meeting of the branch was held on 18.2.2019. No meeting could be conducted during the last one and half year due to covid. Only one meeting on Zoom was held in the month of May 2021. At the outset branch members paid rich tributes to two of our members Shri Anil Gupta and Shri M.K. Srivastva who lost their lives due to covid during the intervening period. The members observed two minutes of silence for the departed souls. This brought the total active membership to 94. 6 new members joined as life members. The branch Secretary briefed the members about the various issues concerning the members. The members raised the issues of 1. Non-payment of pending medical bills of the retirees since March 2019 whereas the bills are being paid to the working staff regularly. 2. Non release of IDA instalment due to PSUs falling due wef 1.7.2021. Elections were also held for the branch which were overdue. The following were elected unanimously as office bearers. The meeting passed a resolution for deeply appreciating the commendable work done by the last Committee in expanding the base of our branch and raising its strength to 94. The meeting was followed by vote of thanks and lunch. [View list of office bearers](#)

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