



## Editorial

### SICK MENTALITY OF BSNL AND DOT

It is the common belief that once a principle is decided on a specific issue, it becomes a settled matter even for the future. But it seems that both DOT and BSNL consider that this concept is not applicable to the cases pertaining to the BSNL IDA pensioners. This forces them to seek clarification on each and every issue, when it comes for consideration for their implementation to the BSNL IDA pensions - even though there could be existence of an earlier decision on the same issue.

Government has already issued few orders implementing its decisions on various recommendations of the 7<sup>th</sup> CPC regarding pensionary benefits like Pension, DCRG, Commutation etc. The orders of the Government on CPC recommendations are practically not restricted only to the revision of pension of those drawing pension in CDA scale, but also cover the cases of modifications in rules regulating the pension and pensionary benefits. It is correct that the orders on revision of pension for the CDA pensioners are not applicable for the BSNL IDA pensioners as per the settled rule for pension revision, but all the modifications in the existing rules covering pension, qualifying service, minimum pension/family pension, commutation, DCRG etc are equally applicable to the BSNL IDA pensioners since they are also covered under the various

provisions of CCS(Pension) Rules, 1972 as amended from time to time.

Therefore, the orders of the Government raising the maximum limit of DCRG to Rs. 20 lakhs w.e.f. 1.1.2016, based on seventh CPC recommendations, are equally applicable to the BSNL IDA pensioners. When the sixth CPC similarly raised the maximum limit of DCRG from Rs 3 lakhs to Rs. 10 lakhs w.e.f 1.1.2006, doubts were raised about the applicability of this decision to the absorbed BSNL IDA pensioners. At that time, DOT after obtaining a clarification from DOP&PW, issued an order on 12.08.2009 stating that "The enhanced limit for all kinds of gratuities may be made applicable from 1.1.2006" to the absorbed BSNL pensioners. Therefore, once a doubt on a specific issue has been got cleared, same doubt cannot be raised time and again. But this may be funny but unfortunately true that both BSNL and DOT feel otherwise. This time also they have got doubt whether the decision of the Government to enhance the maximum limit of DCRG to Rs. 20 lakhs w.e.f. 1.1.2016 is applicable to the absorbed BSNL pensioners. This exhibits their sick mentality. Whenever there comes a case for extending the benefit of pension rules to the absorbed BSNL pensioners, they become clueless. Thus, DOT has already

sought clarification from DOP&PW on another issue regarding applicability of DOP&PW OM dated 06.04.2016 on revision of pension of pre-2006 pensioners - delinking of revised pension from qualifying service of 33 years. How can DOT have a doubt now on this issue when in the past,

the orders issued based on this concept, have already been implemented to the BSNL IDA pensioners? But neither BSNL nor DOT wants to go by logic. There is no doubt that both the above issues will get resolved, but the very attitude of both BSNL and DOT is condemnable and unacceptable.

## ISSUES TAKEN UP

**AIBSNLREA WRITES DOP&PW TO ADVISE DOT TO IMMEDIATELY IMPLEMENT ITS OM DATED 06.04.2016 ON REVISION OF PENSION OF PRE-2006 PENSIONERS – DELINKING OF REVISED PENSION FROM QUALIFYING SERVICE OF 33 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE ABSORBED BSNL PENSIONERS:** AIBSNLREA has addressed a letter to Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare about non-implementation of its OM dated 06.04.2016 to the BSNL IDA Pensioners by DOT and against its seeking clarifications from DOP&PW on its applicability. AIBSNLREA has cited the past instances when DOT had implemented all the Orders revising pension rules connected with linkage of full pension with 33 years of qualifying service to the BSNL IDA Pensioners after obtaining clarifications from DOP&PW. The Association has maintained since the OM 06.04.2016 is also for modification of pension rules, this should be implemented to the absorbed BSNL pensioners. [View posting dated 31.10.2016 in this website to read the letter.](#)

**AIBSNLREA SEEKS CLARIFICATION FROM DOP&PW REGARDING APPLICABILITY OF ITS ORDER ALLOWING USE OF STATE EMBLEM ON THE IDENTITY CARD OF THE RETIRED PERSONNEL/PENSIONERS IN RESPECT OF BSNL PENSIONERS:** In the last posting in this website yesterday, it was reported that DOP&PW has clarified that the State Emblem can be used on the Identity Cards issued to the Government personnel/pensioners retired from Central Government Civil service. It was also clarified that this provision is not applicable in respect of the pensioners of the Autonomous Bodies etc. AIBSNLREA has now addressed a letter to DOP&PW seeking a clarification whether the order allowing use of State Emblem on the Identity Card of the Pensioners be applicable in respect of absorbed BSNL Pensioners who are covered under CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972 and paid pension by the Government from Central Civil Estimate. [View posting dated 29.10.2016 in this website to read the letter.](#)

**AIBSNLREA URGES PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA TO ADVISE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS TO INTRODUCE DIGITAL LIFE CERTIFICATE SYSTEM OR SIMILAR ARRANGEMENT FOR SUBMISSION OF ANNUAL LIFE CERTIFICATE BY THE DOT/BSNL/MTNL PENSIONERS/FAMILY PENSIONERS TO AVAIL CONTINUATION OF CONCESSIONAL TELEPHONE FACILITY AT THE RESIDENCE:** In order to dispense with the need to physically present themselves to the authorities for submission of

annual Life Certificate by the DOT/BSNL/MTNL pensioners/family pensioners to avail continuation of concessional telephone facility at the residence, AIBSNLREA has urged Prime Minister of India to advise Ministry of Communications for early introduction of a Digital Life Certificate system or a similar arrangement for them. [View posting dated 24.10.2016 in this website to read the letter.](#)

**AIBSNLREA, WEST BENGAL STATE BRANCH TO STAGE DHARNA TO PROTEST AGAINST INDIFFERENT ATTITUDE OF THE WB TELECOM CIRCLE, BSNL TOWARDS THE ISSUES CONCERNING THE PENSIONERS:** In the background of the decision of the West Bengal State Branch of AIBSNLREA to stage Dharna against the indifferent attitude of BSNL West Bengal Telecom Circle, Kolkata towards the issues concerning the BSNL Pensioners, which has also been communicated to the Circle administration, the Central Headquarters of the Association has addressed a letter to Director (HR), BSNL with copy endorsed to others requesting immediate intervention to resolve the issues. [View posting dated 22.10.2016 in this website to read the letter.](#)

**DENIAL OF BENEFIT OF TIME BOUND SCALE UPGRADATION TO THE ELIGIBLE RETIRED JTOs ON WRONG AND UNTENABLE PERCEPTION BY GUJARAT TELECOM CIRCLE:** AIBSNLREA has since taken up the above matter with CMD, BSNL and sought for his intervention to issue a clear direction to the Circle to extend the benefit of TBP to the eligible JTOs who are no more in service without any further delay. The Circle is not extending the benefit of Time Bound upgradation of Scale to the eligible JTOs who have since retired/resigned and even expired for the last four years. The benefit is not being extended on the ground that the E-1/E1A and E2/E2A scales are provisional in nature and there is likelihood of possible recovery of payment on finalization of the pay scales. The Association has contended that the present IDA pay scales in which JTOs and SDEs are placed are the DPE recommended standard pay scales and there is no scope for reduction of the pay scales of JTOs and SDEs on their finalization, since these are lowest in the series of standard pay scales. The Association has referred to the current proposal of BSNL to grant next higher standard pay scales to the JTOs/SDEs and stated that the apprehension expressed by Gujarat Telecom Circle in its reference to BSNL Corporate Office about likely recovery on finalization of revised E1A/E2A scales is therefore unfounded, imaginary and meaningless. [View posting dated 16.10.2016 in this website to read the letter.](#)

**NON-EXTENSION OF THE BENEFITS IN THE REVISED RULES REGARDING PENSION/PENSIONARY BENEFITS INCLUDING ENHANCED LIMIT OF DCRG TO RS. 20 LAKHS AS ORDERED BY DOP&PW VIDE ITS OM NO. 38/37/2016-P&PW(A)(i) DATED 04.08.2016, FOLLOWING ACCEPTANCE OF SEVENTH CPC RECOMMENDATIONS BY GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, TO THE ABSORBED BSNL PENSIONERS - AIBSNLREA TAKES UP THE ISSUE WITH MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND OTHERS:** On receipt of complaints from the some absorbed BSNL

Pensioners who retired on or after 1.1.2016 that they are not being extended the benefit of enhanced limit of DCRG – now raised to Rs. 20 lakhs by DOP&PW OM cited above, AIBSNLREA has since taken up the issue with Minister of State for Communications and others. The Association cites the similar situation that was created when DOP&PW ordered revision of pension rules to enhance the limit of DCRG to Rs 10 lakhs and other pensionary benefits, even those benefits were not being extended to the absorbed BSNL pensioners covered under the same CCS (Pension) Rules which cover the CG Employees also. The Association also added that “At that time, DOT issued clarifications vide its No. 40-31/2009-Pen(T) dated 4.5.2009 and No. 40-31/2009-Pen(T) dated 12.08.2009 stating that “revised rules for pension calculation as per 6<sup>th</sup> CPC with regard to limit of DCRG, commutation table, emoluments, qualifying service etc is applicable to IDA pensioners of BSNL covered under rule-37-A, w.e.f. 01.01.2006.” The Association further submitted that “Once such a clear clarification is issued on the applicability of revised rules regarding DCRG etc on acceptance of CPC recommendations, it is not understood why every time such doubts are being raised. This shows that the concerned Officials and the administration are quite insensitive to the problems of the absorbed BSNL pensioners”. Finally, the Association requested the MOSC to get the issue resolved. [View posting dated 14.10.2016 in this website to read the letter.](#)

**AIBSNLREA ONCE AGAIN TAKES UP THE ISSUE OF NON-EXTENSION OF THE INTENDED BENEFIT OF DOP&PW OM DATED 06.04.2016 ON “ REVISION OF PENSION OF PRE-2006 PENSIONERS - DELINKING OF REVISED PENSION FROM QUALIFYING SERVICE OF 33 YEARS” BY DOT TO THE ABSORBED BSNL PENSIONERS:** In continuation to its earlier letter dated 06.09.2016 [View posting dated 09.09.2016 of this website] and in the background that DOT had sought clarification from DOP&PW about the applicability of its OM dated 06.04.2016 to the absorbed BSNL pensioners, AIBSNLREA has again written a letter to Secretary (Pension) with copy endorsed to others on the above issue. The Association has requested for his personal intervention “in the matter so that a clear direction is given to Department of Telecommunication to extend the intended benefit as envisaged in the DOP&PW OM No. 38/37/08-P&PW(A) dated 06.04.2016 immediately to the absorbed BSNL Pensioners drawing pension/pensionary benefits from the Government of India”. [View posting dated 13.10.2016 in this website to read the letter.](#)

**AIBSNLREA WRITES TO DIRECTOR (HR), BSNL REGARDING ITS EARLIER REQUEST FOR DISCUSSIONS ON SOME ISSUES CONCERNING THE BSNL PENSIONERS IN GENERAL AND THE BSNL EXECUTIVES IN PARTICULAR:** AIBSNLREA had earlier addressed a letter on 16.08.2016 (view posting dated 18.08.2016 of this website) requesting to spare some time to give an opportunity to the Association to present the issues, as were mentioned in the said letter, in person. The said letter was marked for getting the status on the issues taken up. Since nothing

has been heard on the matter, the Association writes another letter to Director (HR). [View posting dated 08.10.2016 in this website to read the letter.](#)

**AIBSNLREA WRITES TO DIRECTOR (HR), BSNL REGARDING INACTION BY BSNL CORPORATE OFFICE TO PROCESS THE CASES FOR REVISION OF PENSION/FAMILY PENSION OF THE EMPLOYEES RETIRED FROM BSNL CORPORATE OFFICE:** Since there is no progress in processing the cases for revision of pension/family pension, by allowing the benefit of merger of 50% DA/DR with Basic pay/Pension effectively amounting to 78.2% DA/DR for the purpose of fitment, in respect of the pensioners/family pensioners who retired from BSNL Corporate Office, AIBSNLREA has addressed a letter to Director (HR) requesting her immediate intervention in the matter. [View posting dated 07.10.2016 in this website to read the letter.](#)

**DEVELOPMENT OF WEB BASED PROGRAM FOR MONITORING MEDICAL CLAIMS OF RETIRED EMPLOYEES - AIBSNLREA TAKES UP THE ISSUE OF DELAY IN ITS INTRODUCTION:** AIBSNLREA has since addressed a letter to Director (HR), BSNL with copy endorsed to CGM, ITPC, Pune regarding the delay in introduction of the web based program that has been developed for monitoring medical claims of retired employees. The Association has pointed out that “We understand that CGM, ITPC, Pune had sent the program for validation of the Corporate Office and had even replied to the queries made on it. But, as we have been told, the Corporate Office is yet to give final green signal for its implementation. In the process, the retired employees continue to face the same problem to know the status of their pending medical claims”. The Association has further sought the intervention of Director (HR) for immediate introduction of the program in all Circles. [View posting dated 03.10.2016 in this website to read the letter.](#)

**AIBSNLREA WRITES TO SECRETARY (TELECOM) ABOUT INACTION BY DOT’S VIGILANCE WING TO ISSUE VIGILANCE CLERANCE DELAYING ABSORPTION OF S/SHRI B S PATEL, B I BHATT AND M G MALEK, ALL RETIRED SDEs OF GUJARAT TELECOM CIRCLE:** AIBSNLREA has now taken up with Secretary (Telecom) about Inaction by Vigilance Wing of DOT to issue Vigilance clearance in respect of S/Shri B S Patel, Retd SDE, B I Bhatt, Retd SDE and M G Malek, Retd SDE of Gujarat Telecom Circle for their absorption in Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited and requested his intervention in the matter. The Association has pointed out that the STG.II Section of DOT has been requesting the Vigilance Wing since February 2016 to issue the vigilance clearance, but there is no response even to the subsequent reminders by the STG.II Section. The Association has further written that “In view of the above, we request your kind personal intervention in the matter so that the Vigilance Wing issue the vigilance clearance in respect of the above named retired Officers as being repeatedly requested by STG.II Section of DOT which in turn will help to end the mental torture, social stigma and financial hardships of these retired Officers”. [View posting dated 01.10.2016 in this website to read the letter.](#)

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

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES FORWARDS AIBSNLREA'S REPRESENTATION ON "REFUND OF RECOVERY MADE AFTER 12 YEARS OF EXTENSION OF THE BENEFIT OF PAY FIXATION ON PROMOTION" TO THE DOT:** AIBSNLREA had taken up the above issue in the background of a Supreme Court Order which declared cases of recovery of excess/wrongful payment in some specific conditions impermissible in law [View posting dated 31.08.2016 of this website]. DOP&T had also issued a detailed circular to comply with the said judgment. Now DPE has forwarded the copy of the said representation to DOT for examination and necessary action. Meanwhile, BSNL has issued detailed guidelines to deal with the cases for waiver of excess/wrongful payments made to the BSNL employees which will help the affected employees to get the desired relief [View posting dated 12.09.2016 of this website]. [View posting dated 19.10.2016 in this website to read the DPE letter.](#)

**DOT ACKNOWLEDGES RECEIPT OF AIBSNLREA'S REPRESENTATION TO PRIME MINISTER COMPLAINING AGAINST DOT FOR PLAYING WITH THE CENTRALIZED PUBLIC GRIEVANCE REDRESS AND MONITORING SYSTEM:** DOT has since acknowledged receipt of AIBSNLREA's representation dated 31.08.2016 [view posting dated 31.08.2016 and also posting dated 16.09.2016 and 17.09.2016 of this website] to the Prime Minister wherein it was pointed out how DOT is closing the grievances lodged in CPGRAMS with replies which are not connected to the grievances. The Association cited the disposal of its representation dated 20.07.2016 to DDF(Estt), DOT since registered under DOPPW/P/2016/03496 dated 29.07.2016 wherein DOT was requested to advise all CCA Offices to allow the benefit of DOP&PW OM dated 06.04.2016 for "revision of pension of pre-2006 pensioners – delinking of revised pension from qualifying service of 33 years" to the BSNL IDA pensioners. But DOT without doing the needful had stated that it has endorsed the said OM of DOP&PW. [View posting dated 08.10.2016 in this website to read the letter.](#)

**DOT REPLIES TO AIBSNLREA'S APPEAL TO THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA URGING TO RENDER JUSTICE TO THE GROUP C EMPLOYEES OF DOT WHO WERE OFFERED BENEFIT OF OPTION TO RRETAIN CDA PAY SCALE TILL THEIR PROMOTION OR RETIREMENT WHICHEVER IS EARLIER:** DOT has since sent a reply to AIBSNLREA in response to its appeal dated 19.05.2016 to the President of India [view posting dated 22.05.2016 of this website] urging to render justice to the Group 'C' Employees of DOT who were offered the benefit of option to retain CDA pay scale till their promotion or retirement whichever is earlier while inviting option for their absorption in BSNL, but now being denied of the said benefit. DOT says that this is a policy matter and is currently under consideration. [View posting dated 08.10.2016 in this website to read the letter.](#)

## **GOVERNMENT/BSNL ORDERS**

**USE OF STATE EMBLEM IN IDENTITY CARDS ISSUED TO THE RETIRED GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL/PENSIONERS WHO RETIRED FROM CENTRAL GOVERNMENT CIVIL SERVICE ALLOWED:** DOP&PW, vide its No. 41/21/2000-P&PW(D) dated 26.10.2016, has since clarified that the State Emblem can be used in the Identity Cards issued to the Government personnel/pensioners retired from Central Government Civil service. It has further clarified that this provision is not applicable in respect of the pensioners of the Autonomous Bodies etc. These Autonomous Bodies may, however, use their own logo on the Identity Cards. [View the DOT Orders uploaded in this website on 27.10.2016](#)

**EXTENSION OF CGHS FACILITIES TO THE BSNL PENSIONERS - DOT ISSUES ANOTHER ORDER REGARDING RECORDING OF BASIC PAY OF CDA SCALE WITH REFERENCE TO IDA SCALE IN PPOs:** AIBSNLREA has been taking up with both BSNL and DOT the difficulties that the BSNL pensioners desirous to opt for CGHS facility may face due to some ambiguities in the Orders extending the CGHS facility to the BSNL pensioners [The last reference that was made by this Association can be viewed in posting dated 02.09.2016 of this website]. Now DOT has issued another Order to remove some practical difficulties faced by the Pension Payment Authorities regarding mentioning of Basic Pay of CDA scale with reference to IDA scale in the PPOs to determine Grade Pay and Ward entitlement. [View the DOT Orders uploaded in this website on 20.10.2016](#)

**REVISION OF IDA W.E.F. 1.10.2016:** Department of Public Enterprises, Government of India has since issued and uploaded in its website the orders revising IDA w.e.f 1.10.2016 from 114.8% to 120.3% for CPSEs where last pay revision was implemented w.e.f. 1.1.2007. Similarly, DPE has also issued orders revising IDA w.e.f 1.10.2016 from 262.6% to 272% for the CPSEs where last pay revision was implemented w.e.f. 1.1.1997. [View the DPE Orders uploaded in this website on 06.10.2016](#)

## **BRANCHES IN ACTION**

**ALLAHABAD BRANCH OF AIBSNLREA HELD ITS GENERAL BODY MEETING:** Allahabad Branch of AIBSNLREA held a General Body meeting in the premises of GMTD Office, Allahabad and elected new Office bearers against a few vacant posts. Shri R S Arora, UP State Secretary attended the meeting and briefed the members about the development on various issues. Shri Rajendra Prasad, who resigned from the post of Branch Secretary following his election as the Assistant State Secretary of the UP State Branch of AIBSNLREA, reported about the status of clearance of pending medical claims and progress of pension revision cases. He reported that payment of medical claim bills submitted upto September 2016 have already been made. In regard to pension revision cases, all the revised pension papers have been prepared and being scrutinized by the Accounts Branch. These are expected to be sent to CCA Office within a fortnight. Later the House unanimously elected following members against the vacant posts of some Office-

Bearers:- (1) Branch Secretary: Shri Ram Lakhan, Retd SDE (9415017042), (2) Assistant Branch Secretary: Shri H L Yadav, Retd A.O. (9450968085), (3) Organizing Secretary: S/Shri Ramachandra, Retd SDE (9415108825) and Brahamdeen, Retd SDE (9415045179), (4) Executive Committee Members: S/Shri O C Gupta, Retd CAO (9415351981) and Y N Tripathi, Retd DE (9415662060).

**EAST GODAVARI BRANCH OF AIBSNLREA HELD ITS EC MEETING:** The Executive body meeting of AIBSNLREA East Godavari District Branch was held on 24.10.2016 under the president ship of Sri GV Rama Krishna, District President. Shri GSVSS Vara Prasad, District Secretary welcomed the members and informed the executive body about the sad demise Shri Ch Satyanarayana. The house then paid homage to the departed soul. The District Secretary placed the following details in respect of pension revision case. Out of total 391 pension revision cases for pre-2007 pensioners, 190 cases have already been sent to Pr CCA, Hyderabad and another 144 cases have since been processed and about to be sent. Rest 54 cases are having some discrepancies. In respect of post-2007 cases, out of total 597 revision cases, 345 cases are ready to be sent and balance 252 cases are under process. The DS further reported that the membership of the branch is now 179 and 57 new members joined from various SSAs during the last two years. President Shri GV Rama Krishna and S/Shri RSN Murty, Bhavachari, S Satyanarayana, A Kodanada rao appealed the members to mobilise the friends in other SSAs to either open new branch or join this branch. Shri Ch Gandhi OS (South) explained the progress of 78.2% IDA in various SSAs and further informed that the work at Pr CCA office also already started. The finance secretary then presented the financial status. It was resolved to deposit another Rs 40,000/- in the bank. Already Rs 40,000/- was in the bank. The executive discussed about implementation 7th CPC recommendations to the BSNL retirees after 1st January 2016. It is observed that the CCA offices are raising the objections saying that the said orders are not endorsed by BSNL. This issue is already taken up by General secretary as this is having impact on Executives only However It is requested to the members to put an individual representation to the administration to extend the benefits to them. The Executive decided to post pone the Bi annual General body meeting to December 2016.

**QUARTERLY GENERAL BODY MEETING OF AIBSNLREA, KOLHAPUR BRANCH HELD:** Quarterly General Body meeting of Kolhapur (Maharashtra) was held on 23.10.2016 in Telephone Bhavan Conference Hall, Kolhapur. Shri S H Mokashi, on the request of the house, chaired the meeting which started with prayer followed by welcome address by the President. S/Shri. AG Sankeshwari, DGM retired from Karnataka, and AM Benkae DGM retired from Kolhapur on their joining the Association were welcomed by the President with presentation of bouquet. 52 members attended the meeting. Branch Secretary Shri D K Joshi briefed the members about the various issues taken up by the Association. The queries raised by the members on the recent orders to allow CGHS facility to the BSNL pensioners were also replied. Status regarding the issue of deferred option case in respect of the Group C employees was placed before the house. The House was informed that one senior member Shri Y B Patil, who could not attend the meeting, has sent a donation. Similarly, another member Shri S G Naik, on his attaining the age of 75, has



also donated RS.1000/- to the Association. Then Asst. Secretary, Shri P S Kulkarni introduced Dr. Abhijit Patil and Dr. Rohan from “Madhav Baug” a medical Organization of Pune who delivered useful talk on “Heart Care” for the aged. Queries raised by the members quires were duly replied by them. Then Shri S V Patil, a Life Member from Sangli, offered to sponsor the day’s lunch for the meeting, to celebrate of his sons’ marriage. The meeting ended with vote of thanks presented by Shri P S Kulkarni, Asst. Secretary.

**REPRESENTATIVES OF AIBSNLREA, EAST VIDARBHA (NAGPUR) BRANCH MET CCA NAGPUR:**

Representatives of AIBSNLREA, East Vidarbha (Nagpur) Branch comprising of S/Shri U B Nikose, Branch President, V W Patil, Vice President, Arun Deshpande, Branch Secretary, Bhola Kamble, Asst Branch Secretary and B P Mazumdar, Finance Secretary along with Shri P R Bhujbal, CHQ Vice President met Smt Ghosh CAO In-charge o/o CCA office Nagpur on 17.10.2016 and discussed about the progress of revision of pension/family pension of BSNL pensioners/family pensioners. It was informed that so far the CCA office has received pension revision cases only from Nagpur and Akola SSA, and also from Electrical Wing of Amravati SSA. The consolidation work has already started in the CCA Office but revised Pension Payment Orders are yet to be issued. On the request of the Association, the CAO agreed to incorporate the additional amount of pension to be paid to the old pensioners/family pensioners in their PPOs. The CAO also agreed to send the copy of revised PPO at the residence of the pensioners/family pensioners by speed post. The Association also expressed concern over the inordinate delay taking place in payment of revised IDA as ordered by DPE wef 1-07-2016 to the BSNL pensioners drawing pension through various post offices in Maharashtra. The CAO reported that the delay took place due to some administrative problems in CCA office, Mumbai and assured to ensure timely payment in future.

**GENERAL BY MEETING OF AIBSNLREA, SANGRUR BRANCH HELD:** A general body meeting of Sangrur Branch (Punjab State) of AIBSNLREA was held on 17.10.2016 at Kaula Park office of Shri Parshotam Dass, SDE (Retd). The meeting was presided over by Shri P K Jindal, Branch President. Eleven members attended the meeting that was held under the President ship of P K Jindal, Dy.GM (Retd). The progress and status of the following issues were discussed in detail :- (1) Fixation of Pay and Pension with 78.2% IDA merger benefit as on 01.01.2007, (2) Revision of pension of Pre-2006 pensioners - delinking of revised pension from qualifying service of 33 years and (3) Issue of Pensioners’ ID cards in revised format linking Aadhar Number as ordered by DOP&PW. The GB decided that Shri Mukhtiar Singh, AGM (Retd) shall discharge the function of the second post of Assistant Branch Secretary. The meeting ended with Finance Secretary Shri V K Mittal wishing all a happy festival season.

**AMRAVATI BRANCH OF AIBSNLREA (WEST VIDARBHA REGION ) HELD ITS EC MEETING:** The newly elected executive body of AIBSNLREA, Amravati Branch held its first Executive Committee meeting, under the Chairmanship of Shri R.W. Tidake, President of the Branch, on 7<sup>th</sup> October,

2016 at the Conference Hall of G. M. Telecom Amravati. The meeting was attended by all the office bearers along with Shri V. G. Dakhode, State Secretary. The President and Branch Secretary Shri D V Rokade briefed the house about the discussion that took place with the GM/DGM BSNL, Amravati on 29.09.2016 regarding revision of pension with fitment benefit by merger of 78.2% IDA. They reported that till that day practically no progress was there in the case. The State Secretary assured that he would take up the matter with appropriate authority about the unhelpful attitude of the local administration towards the issues pertaining to the pensioners. Further, the issue regarding payment of the Medical Bills was also discussed. After the State Secretary briefed the house about the issues being processed at the all India level, Shri M.Z.Shinde, Finance Secretary presented Vote of Thanks and the meeting was declared as closed.

**AIBSNLREA, PALAKKAD BRANCH HELD ITS GENERAL BODY MEETING:** Palakkad Branch (Kerala) of AIBSNLREA had its GB meeting at Top in Town auditorium, Palakkad on 12.10.2016. The meeting began at 11.30 hrs with observation of silence in memory of Shri V K Ramachandran, Retd SDE, Ottapalam and an active member of the Branch who breathed his last on 10<sup>th</sup> October, 2016. Thereafter, discussions were held on other issues. It was informed to the House that the payment of arrears due to the orders issued on fitment benefit by merger of 78.2% IDA is expected to take place only this year end. There was lengthy discussions regarding the present restricted payment on Medical facilities when admitted in hospital for In Patient treatment. Branch Secretary explained that if the actual amount towards certain surgeries are very huge, the GM can sanction only twice the Pay plus DA drawn at the time of retirement. Even the top executives of SSA may not get actual amount towards the treatment. If the patient is not satisfied with the amount sanctioned by GM and if the case is sent to Circle Office for getting an increase in treatment expenses over the amount sanctioned by the SSA, further reduction is also taking place. This situation needs some correction urgently. Regarding formation of a State Branch, it was informed that efforts are going on. Asst Secretary Shri Subramanian briefed the latest development on this matter and also requested the members to contact their colleagues /friends retired in other SSAs of Kerala to organize. He expressed the hope that a State Core Committee at least can be formed without much delay. Forty (40) members had attended the meeting and two new members joined the Branch during the meeting. With S/Shri Ramanthan, Retd DGM(Fin) and Rasheed Ali, Retd AO joining the Association, actual strength of membership of the Branch remained as 66, since two members had expired. The meeting concluded at 13.30 hrs and the members disbursed after a lunch arranged in the hall.

**NEW BRANCH OF AIBSNLREA AT AHMEDNAGAR (MAHARASHTRA) FORMED :** In a meeting of the retired Executives of BSNL held on 09.10.2016 at Ahmednagar in Maharashtra State, a new Branch of AIBSNLREA was formed. The venue of the meeting was Telephone Bhawan, Ahmednagar. S/Shri S N Mupid, B B Controllu, the President and Branch Secretary respectively of Pune Branch of AIBSNLREA attended the meeting. The house was apprised of the activities of the Association. Later, following Office Bearers were elected unanimously to represent the Branch:- President: Shri V.R.Pawar (Mob: 9422220009), Vice President: Shri J.M.Sayyed (Mob: 9403909922), Branch Secretary: Shri D. A. Bhadange (Mob: 9421440044), Asst Branch Secretary:

Shri S.N.Nimbalkar (Mob: 9423168878), Finance Secretary: Shri S.N.Kshirsagar. (Mob. 9422222700).

**GENERAL BODY MEETING OF AIBSNLREA, MUMBAI BRANCH HELD:** General Body Meeting of AIBSNLREA, Mumbai Branch was held in the Conference Hall, Fountain Telecom Building, 4<sup>th</sup> floor, Fort, Mumbai 400001 on 26.10.2016 at 14.15 Hrs with Shri Vasudeva on the chair. There was very good gathering of the members in the meeting. Branch Secretary informed the house about unfortunate and untimely death of Shri Rajeev Saxena, Retired DE ( NMS) Mumbai. The house observed two minutes silence in the memory of the departed soul. Shri Vasudeva welcomed all the members for attending meeting in good strength and gave valuable information to the members. He also suggested several methods for increasing the membership of the Branch. Branch Secretary S. P. Varma specially welcomed Mrs. Padmavathi Madhur, Retired AGM(IT), Maharashtra Circle for attending meeting and enrolling herself as life member of Mumbai Branch. He also appreciated Shri N. K. Devasy for enrolling 4 life members in the Branch. He further informed the house that he along with five members met the A.O. and AGM of WTR for revision of pension of the members by merger of 78.2% D.A. Surprisingly, they had no copy of the order. The AGM accepted the suggestion of the Branch Secretary to get the order downloaded from the website and start processing the cases. He informed the house that now about 70 – 80 % work is completed and within a week these will be sent to CCA Office for necessary action. He also reported that in Maharashtra Circle, about 50 – 60 % work is complete. He also informed the House that like previous years, a picnic will be conducted in November/December 2016. The Branch Secretary requested the members for increasing membership of Mumbai Branch. S/Shri S. N. Verma and L. M. Oswal were requested to mobilize Western area. S/Shri B. S. Yadav and M. L. Maurya were nominated for Central area. Shri V. R. Monkikar was requested to enroll all members from Thane and nearby areas. The meeting ended with Vote of Thanks by Shri S. N. Verma.

## STATEMENT OF PAYMENTS RECEIVED DURING OCTOBER

### 2016

**Shri Umatanta Bhattacharjee**, ex- Manager, who retired from BSNL Corporate Office, has deposited Rupees five hundred fifty (Rs 550.00) only as Life Member fee on 24.10.2016 in the S/B Account of AIBSNLREA in Syndicate Bank and has been enrolled as a Life Member of Delhi South West Branch.

**Odisha Branch** has deposited Rupees Eight hundred (Rs 800.00) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 19.10.2016 towards quota for 4 new Life Members.

**Mumbai Branch** (Maharashtra State) has deposited Rupees One thousand Six hundred (Rs 1600.00) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 10.10.2016 towards quota for 8 new Life Members.

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