

**RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE 4th ALL INDIA CONFERENCE OF AIBSNLREA
HELD AT VARANASI ON 24TH & 25TH MARCH 2026**

01. RESOLUTION NO. AIBSNLREA/AIC-VARANASI/01

RESTORATION OF COMMUTED VALUE OF PENSION IN LESS THAN 15 YEARS:

The All India Conference of AIBSNLREA, held at Varanasi on 24th and 25th March 2026 expresses deep concern that the Government of India continues with restoration of the commuted portion of pension after 15 years, despite drastically reduced interest rates and clear evidence, including the findings of the Second National Judicial Pay Commission (SNJPC), that the commuted amount stands fully recovered well within 11–12 years. The Fifth Central Pay Commission recommended restoration of commutation after 12 years instead of 15 years. While arriving at this decision, Fifth CPC had also taken note of the fact that several State Governments, such as Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Punjab were already allowing restoration after 12 years. SNJPC has also observed that *“the judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court rendered in the year 1986 [(1987) 1 SCC 142] has lost its relevance in the present-day context and cannot be taken as binding precedent for all time to come”* and had concluded that *“The issue regarding the restoration period needs to be examined denova”*. **This Conference urges the Government of India to restore the commuted value of pension earlier than 15 years, ensuring fairness and eliminating undue gain to the Government at the cost of pensioners.**

02. RESOLUTION NO. AIBSNLREA/AIC-VARANASI/02

ADDITIONAL QUANTUM OF PENSION AT 65, 70 AND 75 YEARS:

The All India Conference of AIBSNLREA, held at Varanasi on 24th and 25th March 2026 notes with concern that the well-reasoned recommendation of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee (110th Report, 2021) to grant 5% additional pension at 65 years, 10% at 70 years, 15% and 75 years, has not been accepted by the Department of Expenditure. Recognizing the rising cost of living, increased longevity, and the need for a humane and robust pension framework, **this Conference strongly urges the Government of India to reconsider its position and grant additional quantum of pension at the rate of 5%, 10% and 15% on attaining the age of 65 years, 70 years and 75 years respectively.**

03. RESOLUTION NO. AIBSNLREA/AIC-VARANASI/03

ENHANCEMENT OF FIXED MEDICAL ALLOWANCE (FMA) FROM ₹1000 TO ₹3000 PER MONTH:

The All India Conference of AIBSNLREA, held at Varanasi on 24th and 25th March 2026 notes that the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice, in its 110th Report (February 2022), strongly recommended enhancement of the Fixed Medical Allowance from ₹1000 to ₹3000 per month, acknowledging the steep rise in medical expenses for pensioners residing in non-CGHS areas. DoP&PW had initiated data

collection from all Ministries/Departments and that, as recorded in the 32nd SCOVA meeting, a proposal for enhancement was under active consideration. However, as per the 34th SCOVA meeting, the Department of Expenditure has indicated that the matter *may be included* in the Terms of Reference of the VIII CPC, yet no explicit mention of FMA appears in the notified Terms of Reference. Considering the heavy out-of-pocket medical burden borne by pensioners outside CGHS coverage, **this Conference urges the Government to enhance Fixed Medical Allowance to ₹3000 per month, in line with the Parliamentary Committee's recommendation and the realities of escalating healthcare costs.**

04. RESOLUTION NO. AIBSNLREA/AIC-VARANASI/04

IMPLEMENTATION OF SUPREME COURT JUDGMENT ON TES GROUP B SENIORITY (LISTS 1–17):

The All India Conference of AIBSNLREA, held at Varanasi on 24th and 25th March 2026 expresses deep concern that, despite the unequivocal judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 14.12.2017 in CA No. 4389 of 2010, accepting the Expert Committee's recommendations and directing revision of Seniority Lists 1 to 17 of TES Group B, holding of Review DPCs for DE promotions ordered by DoT prior to 01.10.2000 and extending the consequential benefits remain unimplemented. The Conference records with dismay that DoT and BSNL continue to shift responsibility, with DoT stating that all files were handed over to BSNL, and BSNL insisting that action requires DoT's approval, which has resulted in an unacceptable administrative stalemate for over seven years. **This Conference urges the Department of Telecommunications and BSNL to immediately initiate and complete Review DPCs for all DE promotions ordered prior to 01.10.2000**, based on the revised Seniority Lists 1–17 issued on 04.06.2019, and to extend all consequential benefits including refixation of pensionary benefits.

05. RESOLUTION NO. AIBSNLREA/AIC-VARANASI/05

URGENT NEED TO EXPAND CGHS COVERAGE ACROSS INDIA:

The All India Conference of AIBSNLREA, held at Varanasi on 24th and 25th March 2026 notes with serious concern the difficulties faced by pensioners across the country who continue to seek CGHS facilities in their cities, reflecting the absence of any viable alternative for comprehensive healthcare. Insistence by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare on a minimum of 6000 serving Central Government employees for opening a new CGHS centre is impractical and effectively excludes most cities outside State capitals. The Conference further notes that several existing CGHS cities do not meet these norms, clearly indicating that the criteria are neither uniformly applied nor rational. Expansion of CGHS is repeatedly stalled on the grounds of "resource constraints" and non-sanction of posts by the Department of Expenditure. The Conference is of the considered view that CGHS should be expanded to all District Headquarters, benefiting both pensioners and the large pool of unemployed doctors. With fewer than 800 districts in India, this is a feasible and socially responsible national objective, requiring only firm commitment from the Government. **This Conference strongly urges the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare to relax**

the restrictive norms for opening new CGHS centres and adopt a time-bound plan to extend CGHS to all District Headquarters.

06. RESOLUTION NO. AIBSNLREA/AIC-VARANASI/06

RECTIFICATION OF ANOMALY IN GRANT OF ADDITIONAL QUANTUM OF PENSION: The All India Conference of AIBSNLREA held at Varanasi on 24th and 25th March 2026 notes the inequity faced by pensioners born on the first day of a month, who retire a month earlier but are denied the additional quantum of pension from the month in which they actually complete the age of eligibility. A person born on the 1st of a month retires a full month earlier than others born later in the same month. When it comes to the additional quantum of pension, both individuals are allowed the benefit on the first day of the same month. The person born on the 1st of a month is disadvantaged twice - first by retiring a month earlier, and second by not receiving the additional pension a month earlier. **This Conference urges the Government to amend the rules so that pensioners born on the 1st of a month receive the additional quantum from the month in which they complete the prescribed age, thereby removing the existing inconsistency and ensuring equal treatment.**

07. RESOLUTION NO. AIBSNLREA/AIC-VARANASI/07

NEED FOR A GRACE PERIOD FOR BSNL PENSIONERS SWITCHING TO CGHS: The All India Conference of AIBSNLREA held at Varanasi on 24th and 25th March 2026 expresses deep concern over the precarious situation faced by BSNL pensioners who surrender their BSNLMRS card and fall ill before their CGHS card is issued. During this transition period, pensioners and their families are left without any medical coverage for any treatment, exposing them to severe financial and health risks. The Conference notes that the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has already addressed this issue for Central Government pensioners through its OM dated 15.09.2011, which allows reimbursement for treatment taken within a three-month grace period after retirement, provided the pensioner applies for a CGHS card within the stipulated time. No similar protection exists for BSNL pensioners who are required to surrender BSNLMRS before applying for CGHS. This creates an unjust and dangerous gap in medical coverage that can have catastrophic consequences for elderly pensioners and their dependents. **This Conference urges the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and the CGHS Directorate to immediately issue guidelines providing a grace period for BSNL pensioners switching from BSNLMRS to CGHS, on the same lines as the OM dated 15.09.2011 applicable to Central Government pensioners.**

08. RESOLUTION NO. AIBSNLREA/AIC-VARANASI/08

CONCERN OVER DELAYED RELEASE OF ORDERS FOR REVISION OF IDA: The All India Conference of AIBSNLREA held at Varanasi on 24th and 25th March 2026 observes with disappointment that the Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) has repeatedly delayed issuing IDA revision orders for almost every quarter during the recent past. Every time there has been a delay, unnecessary

doubts and apprehensions arise in the minds of the pensioners about whether the Government is reconsidering or discontinuing the payment of IDA itself. The delay in issuing IDA orders also creates significant administrative complications for the pension drawing CCA offices and results in delayed payment of IDA as arrears. Despite repeated representations to the Secretary, DPE, the delays have persisted, culminating in an unprecedented delay in the IDA increase due from 01.01.2026, forcing this Association to escalate the matter to the Hon'ble Finance Minister. **This Conference strongly urges the Department of Public Enterprises to issue IDA revision orders within the first half of the month in which they fall due, as was the consistent practice for decades.**

09. RESOLUTION NO. AIBSNLREA/AIC-VARANASI/09

CONCERN OVER INORDINATE DELAY IN ISSUING PENSIONERS' IDENTITY CARDS: The All India Conference of AIBSNLREA held at Varanasi on 24th and 25th March 2026 expresses deep dissatisfaction that, despite clear instructions from the Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare (DoP&PW), the issuance of Pensioners' Identity Cards to BSNL absorbed pensioners has progressed at an unacceptably slow pace. This Conference strongly supports the proposal submitted by the Association to CGCA to enable digital generation and download of Pensioners' Identity Cards, on the lines of the CGHS card system, allowing pensioners to print and laminate the card themselves. This would eliminate delays caused by manual printing and lamination, reduce workload on CCA offices and ensure accuracy by allowing pensioners to verify draft cards before finalization. **This Conference urges the Controller General of Communication Accounts to expedite implementation of the digital download facility for Pensioners' Identity Cards in SAMPANN 2.0.**

10. RESOLUTION NO. AIBSNLREA/AIC-VARANASI/10

GRAVE CONCERN OVER WITHHOLDING OF PENSIONARY BENEFITS TO BSNL VRS 2019 RETIREES UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF CCA MAHARASHTRA & GOA: The All India Conference of AIBSNLREA held at Varanasi on 24th and 25th March 2026 expresses deep anguish that hundreds of BSNL VRS 2019 retirees belonging to the Scheduled Tribe community in Maharashtra have been denied their rightful pensionary benefits—gratuity, leave encashment, commutation, and even ex-gratia—on the ground of pending caste certificate revalidation, despite having served for decades with caste certificates accepted at the time of appointment.

The Conference notes that the withholding of pensionary benefits is in **direct violation** of DoP&PW OM dated **30.11.2021**, which categorically states: *“Unless departmental or judicial proceedings are pending against a retiring employee, the pensionary/retirement benefits of the retiring employee should not be withheld or delayed on the ground of pendency of verification of caste certificate.”* The Conference strongly condemns the attempt to circumvent this OM by issuing **post-retirement chargesheets by BSNL**, years after retirement, solely to retrospectively

alter vigilance status. The observation of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India that caste verification after retirement is "largely academic" and causes "undue harassment," and the judgment of the Hon'ble High Court of Madras in **W.P. No. 35035 of 2023**, which set aside post-retirement caste verification as a "wasteful exercise" have not changed the stance of BSNL and DoT authorities. **This Conference urges the Department of Telecommunications and BSNL to immediately rescind DoT letter No. 40-09/2022-Pen(T) dated 30.01.2025, which contradicts DoP&PW OM dated 30.11.2021, withdraw all post-retirement chargesheets issued solely on the ground of non-submission of caste revalidation and release all withheld pensionary benefits—including gratuity, commutation, leave encashment, and ex-gratia.**

11. RESOLUTION NO. AIBSNLREA/AIC-VARANASI/11

PAY REVISION OF BSNL EMPLOYEES: The All India Conference of AIBSNLREA held at Varanasi on 24th and 25th March 2026 notes that with DoT allowing BSNL to pay pension contribution on *existing pay* and with the wage agreement signed between BSNL and its recognized unions, expectations of revision of pay among BSNL employees is running high. With DPE-stipulated pay scales for Executives already in place, the next decisive step lies with DoT, which must move a Cabinet Note seeking relaxation of the affordability clause—an action explicitly advised by DPE as far back as April 2018.

The Conference endorses BSNL's earlier submissions highlighting its unique national role—serving rural, remote, and uneconomic areas; providing critical connectivity during disasters; supporting e-governance; and functioning as a tariff balancer and strategic public utility. These assertions have now been publicly validated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister and the Hon'ble Minister of Communications, who have repeatedly emphasized BSNL's strategic importance, its contribution to Digital India, and its recent turnaround to operational profit after 18 years.

The Conference reiterates that the DPE OM dated 03.08.2017 provides only three fitment options—15%, 10%, or 5%. There is no provision for 0% fitment, and any attempt to introduce it would violate DPE guidelines and severely demoralize a workforce that has endured VRS, stagnation, and massive workload increases after manpower reduction from 1.65 lakh to around 35,000. Moreover, the pay scales themselves are structured for a 15% fitment, with provisions for bunching only when fitment is 10% or 5%—not 0%.

In view of the above, the Conference urges the Department of Telecommunications to immediately initiate a Cabinet Note seeking relaxation of the affordability clause for BSNL and ensure a just and dignified pay revision for BSNL employees with at least 5% fitment.

12. RESOLUTION NO. AIBSNLREA/AIC-VARANASI/12

ENSURING SMOOTH AND FAST ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE FOR ALL CGHS PENSIONER BENEFICIARIES: The All India Conference of AIBSNLREA held at Varanasi on 24th and 25th March

2026 notes CGHS Directorate's Office Memorandum F.No.5-36/CGHS(HO)/HEC/2024 dated 05.08.2024, which permits CGHS beneficiaries aged 70 years and above to seek direct OPD consultation from Specialists in empanelled hospitals without referral from the CGHS Wellness Centre. **This Conference urges the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and the CGHS Directorate to consider extending similar relaxation to all pensioner beneficiaries of CGHS, in view of increasing age-related morbidity.**

13. RESOLUTION NO. AIBSNLREA/AIC-VARANASI/13

DEEP CONCERN OVER PERSISTENT VIOLATIONS OF DOP&PW INSTRUCTIONS: The Conference expresses grave concern that the Department of Telecommunications and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited continue to disregard binding instructions issued by the Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare, the nodal authority for pension policy and welfare of pensioners. These violations include - non-payment of interest on late payment of gratuity, contrary to CCS (Pension) Rules, 2021; withholding of pensionary benefits for retirees acquitted by trial courts, despite no stay on the acquittal in the appeal pending and withholding of pension, gratuity, and other dues on the ground of pending caste certificate verification, in direct violation of DoP&PW OM dated 30.11.2021.

The Conference notes with serious concern that DoP&PW's official communications to DoT, requiring action and reply within 21 days are routinely ignored. This persistent non-responsiveness undermines the authority of the nodal department and leaves pensioners without any effective remedy.

The Conference observes that DoP&PW, despite being the custodian of pensioners' welfare, lacks an enforcement mechanism to ensure that its instructions are scrupulously implemented by all Ministries, Departments, and CPSEs. As a result, pensioners, especially BSNL retirees, continue to face avoidable hardship, harassment, and denial of statutory entitlements.

This Conference urges the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India to establish a robust mechanism to ensure strict compliance with DoP&PW instructions across all Ministries, Departments, and Government undertakings, including mandatory time-bound compliance reporting to DoP&PW; accountability for non-compliance or delayed compliance; escalation protocols for unresolved cases; and empowerment of DoP&PW to enforce its instructions effectively.
