



Dear Members, last week, every print and visual media in the entire country was flashing a news that “Old Central Government retirees may not benefit from new Pay Commission”, citing an amendment passed in Lok Sabha which was part of Finance Bill 2025. Subsequently Press Information Bureau came up with a Press Release quoting from the legislation that "the Central Government has the authority to establish distinctions among pensioners as a general principle and that a distinction may be made or maintained amongst the pensioners, which may emanate from the accepted recommendations of the Central Pay Commissions and in particular the distinction may be made on the basis of date of retirement." After checking the related documents, AIBSNLREA has represented to the Prime Minister conveying our apprehensions and explaining the background of Pension Revision recommended by V, VI and VII CPC based on a Supreme Court judgment in D.S.Nakara case regarding parity in pension between past and future pensioners. In order that the principles of equity and justice enshrined under Article 14 of the Constitution as upheld by the Hon’ble Supreme Court are not tampered with, we have requested that the Part IV of the Finance Bill 2025 be dropped. Subsequently in a virtual meeting conducted by DoP&PW with Pensioners Association, Secretary (Pension) said this is not an amendment but only a 'validation' of the existing pension rules. The purpose was to reiterate the authority of the Government while facing court cases. There was no policy change regarding parity and the present policy will continue. He wanted the pensioner associations to be optimistic about VIII CPC. Most of the pensioner representatives who spoke in the meeting continued to articulate their concern and apprehensions even after the above assurances by Secretary (P). As of now, we can only take the assurances with a grain of salt. We do not believe that the Government brought this amendment just to validate the existing rules. This amendment provides a weapon to the Government to act against the interest of pensioners, if not now, in the future. In order to demonstrate support to the contents of our letter to the Prime Minister and to convey our anxiety and disquiet, AIBSNLREA CHQ requests all the members to send emails to the Prime Minister and the Finance Minister, conveying our genuine apprehensions regarding this development. The email ID and the text of the email are provided separately. All members are requested to send emails in the next few days. Branch Secretaries should ensure that maximum number of members from their Branch send the email. State Secretaries and CHQ office bearers are requested to co-ordinate with the State/Branch Secretaries to make this email campaign a success.

- General Secretary, AIBSNLREA