

# ALL INDIA BHARAT SANCHAR NIGAM LIMITED RETIRED EXECUTIVES' ASSOCIATION

#### Central Headquarters

Registered under Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860 vide Govt. of NCT Delhi No. S/RS/SW/1161/2014 [Registered under Pensioners Portal vide DoP&PW letter No. 4(4)/2021-P&PW(H)7311 dated 04.01.2024] Flat No.6, Second Floor, 10/41, Sowrashtranagar 7th Cross Street, Choolaimedu, Chennai – 600094

Email: gensecaibsnlrea@yahoo.com

President

V. Chinnapappiah (M) 9444003300 Website: https://www.aibsnlrea.org
General Secretary

R.R.Balasubramanian (M) 9486100613 Financial Secretary

Awadesh Sharma (M) 9968630008

Date: 21st August 2024

No. AIBSNLREA/CHQ/2024/61

To Shri Alok Agarwal, Co-operative Ombudsman, 9th Floor, Tower E, World Trade Centre, Nauroji Nagar, New Delhi 110029

Sub: Request to intervene and resolve the years old grievance of members of The Government Telecom Employees' Co-operative Society, Chennai, without imposing restriction on date of submission

Sir,

We are constrained to draw your personal attention to the misery and pain inflicted on the thousands of members of **The Government Telecommunication Employees' Cooperative Society, Chennai,** by the Society by failing to make payment of the lakhs of rupees of dues to be paid to each of them even after their retirement.

2. After more than 4 years now, the situation is becoming 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. The plight of these pensioners is comparable in a way to that of people cheated by private chitfund companies, in which case these people loose forever lakhs and lakhs of rupees of their hard earned money. But unlike these people, the BSNL employees got their money recovered and paid to the Society by BSNL, the employer. Therefore no one ever even imagined that they will land in the present situation. Regrettably, neither the Management of the Society, who are also employees of BSNL, nor the BSNL Management which recovers the subscription and

other dues from its employees and deposit to the Society, appears to have the least concern about the sufferings of the pensioners.

- 3. All the affected pensioners have been running from pillar to post all these years, knocking the doors of every authority that they believed would bring them relief, but in vain. We had duly brought this to the notice of the Central Registrar of Societies in the year 2021 requesting his intervention, but we were curtly informed that "these societies are not under the administrative control of the Central Registrar, Ministry of Cooperation." [copy enclosed as Annexure-I].
- 4. The affected members of the Society therefore were excited over the appointment of Co-operative Ombudsman vide an amendment to Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act last year and believed that there is light at the end of the tunnel. But to their disappointment, all their representations have been returned by your office as "not maintainable" citing a provision under rule 30G(B) of MSCS Rules, 2002, which stipulates that "a complaint or an appeal a the case may be, shall not lie unless the complaint is filed not later than one month after the complainant has received the reply of the multi-State co-operative society or, where no reply is received, not later than two months after such representation was made." [Annexure-II]
- 5. We believe that the representations were disposed of in a routine manner by your office even without bringing them to your notice, as nowhere in the Act it has been specified that the Ombudsman will only consider cases arising in the future. Also, we believe that you will be able to feel and empathise with the sufferings of the pensioners who are fighting to get back their hard earned savings with the Society to which they had subscribed through their employer, the BSNL.
- 6. We would therefore request you to kindly cause consideration of the all the representations which were received on the subject by your office including those which have been returned and cause suitable action to make the Society to pay their dues.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(R.R.Balasubramanian)
General Secretary

#### Copy to:

- 1. Dr. Ashish Kumar Bhutani, Secretary, Ministry of Co-operation, Gol
- Shri V Srinivas, Secretary (Pension), DoP&PW, GoI

# Details for registration number: DOAAC/E/2021/14901

Name Of Complainant	Balasubramanian R R
Date of Receipt	03/09/2021
Received By Ministry/Department	Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

### **Grievance Description**

This is a grievance addressed to the Central Registrar, Dept of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, by AIBSNLREA, regarding non-refund of dues pending with the Government Telecom Employees Cooperative Society, Chennai, to BSNL Pensioners, who were members of the Society during service. BSNL refuses to take cognisance of the issue though the Management of the Society consists of BSNL employees and BSNL itself contributed to the crisis by not depositing the amount collected by it from the BSNL employees, to the Society. Details are attached. Without intervention and action by the Central Registrar, there is no possibility of resolving the issue. The society is a multi-state society and registered with Central Registrar. This association therefore requests the kind intervention of the Central Registrar so that the plight of the pensioners come to an end.

<b>Current Status</b>	Case closed
Date of Action	20/09/2021

#### Remarks

The entity is not registered under the provisions of MSCS Act, 2002. Kindly contact the concerned authority.

Rating	1
Rating Remarks	The Government Telecom Employees Cooperative Society, Chennai is a Multi-State Cooperative Society and is registered with Central Registrar New Delhi with Regn.No.MSCS CR10/86. This fact has been stated under Para 4 of our grievance document. May be due to oversight, without verifying the records, the reply has been given. It is requested that the fact may be verified and appropriate intervention done to resolve the grievance of hundreds of BSNL pensioners. If it is not found to have been registered under Regn.No.MSCS CR10/86, the fact may be conveyed under signature of competent authority.

## **Appeal Details**

Appeal Number	DOAAC/E/A/21/0001512
Date of Receipt	20/09/2021
Appeal Text	The Government Telecom Employees Cooperative Society, Chennai is a Multi-State Cooperative Society and is registered with Central Registrar New Delhi with Regn.No.MSCS CR10/86. This fact has been stated under Para 4 of our grievance document. May be due to oversight, without verifying the records, the reply has been given. It is requested that the fact may be verified and appropriate intervention done to resolve the grievance of hundreds of BSNL pensioners. If it is not found to have been registered under Regn.No.MSCS CR10/86, the fact may be conveyed under signature of competent authority.
<b>Current Status</b>	Appeal Closed
Date of Action	29/09/2021

#### Remarks

The Multi State cooperative society registered under the provisions of MSCS Act, 2002 has to function as per the provisions of MSCS Act, 2002 & rules made thereunder and its approved bye-laws. Further, the societies registered under the provisions of Multi State Cooperative Societies (MSCS) Act, 2002 are functioning as autonomous cooperative organizations accountable to their member's. The roles and powers of the member's, board, general body of the society and Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies are defined in the Act. As per the provisions of Section 49 of the MSCS Act, 2002, the business matters such as to admit members, to accept the deposits and investing the same including sanction loans to the member's are fall under the power's and functions of the board of the society and the day to day management of the business of the society is under the powers and functions of the Chief Executive of the society as per the provisions of Section 52 of the MSCS Act, 2002. Further, these societies are not under the administrative control of the Central Registrar, Ministry of Cooperation.

Officer Concerns To		
Officer Name	Sh. (Section Officer)	
Organisation name	Law and Management Section	
<b>Contact Address</b>	Room No. 397 Krishi Bhawan New Delhi	
Email Address	lawmscs397@yahoo.co.in	
Contact Number	01123383991	
	Print Close	

Regd./Speed Post

F. No. R-11017/02/2024 -Omb.
Government of India
Ministry of Cooperation
(Office of Cooperative Ombudsman)
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9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Tower 'E', World Trade Centre, Nauroji Nagar, Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi 110029. Dated 10<sup>th</sup> June, 2024

То

The Complainants (As per list attached).

Subject: Complaint against Telecommunication Employees Cooperative Society Ltd., Chennai, Tamil Nadu. - reg.

Sir/ Madam,

I am directed to refer to complaints received against Telecommunication Employees Cooperative Society Ltd., Chennai, Tamil Nadu for non-repayment of dues to its members.

- 2. The complaints have been examined in terms of MSCS Act, 2002 and rules made there under.
- 3. As per the provisions of rule 30G(B) of MSCS Rules, 2002, a complaint or an appeal, as the case may be, shall not lie unless the complaint is filed not later than one month after the complainant has received the reply of the multi-State co-operative society or, where no reply is received, not later than two months after such representation was made. Further, the complaint has to be filed in form VI prescribed under rule 30II(2) of MSCS Rules, 2002. The complaints are therefore not maintainable before the Cooperative Ombudsman.

This issues with the approval of Cooperative Ombudsman.

Yours sincerely

(Chhabil Singh) Consultant