



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

Website: <https://www.aibsnlrea.org>

President

V. Chinnappiah
(M) 9444003300

General Secretary

R.R.Balasubramanian
(M) 9486100613

Financial Secretary

Awadesh Sharma
(M) 9968630008

No. AIBSNLREA/CHQ/2025/67

Dated 8th October 2025

To

Dr.Neeraj Mittal,
Secretary (Telecom),
Department of Telecommunications,
New Delhi 110001.

Subject: Request strict adherence to DoP&PW instructions vide OM No. 38/09020.00-P&PW (A) (6721) dated 30.11.2021 as the essence of the instructions have been upheld by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India

Sir,

This is in continuation of our letter No.AIBSNLREA/CHQ/2025/43 dated 9th June 2025 [enclosed as Annexure-I], addressed to the Member (S), DoT wherein we had requested rescinding of DoT letter vide No.40-09/2022-Pen(T) dated 30.01.2025 issued in violation of DoP&PW instructions vide its OM No. 38/09020.00-P&PW (A) (6721) dated 30.11.2021 which stipulates that "***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***"; directing BSNL Maharashtra Circle and CCA Maharashtra & Goa to strictly follow DoP&T OM vide No. 36011/2/2010-Estt.(Res.) dated 10 August 2010 and DoP&PW instructions vide its OM No. 38/09020.00-P&PW (A) (6721) dated 30.11.2021; directing CCA Maharashtra & Goa to release gratuity and commutation of pension in respect of these affected retirees, based on the vigilance clearance granted by BSNL on the date of their retirement, with penal interest and directing BSNL to release the ex-gratia assured under BSNL VRS 2019 immediately with penal interest.

2. We had also submitted a copy of our letter No.AIBSNLREA/CHQ/2025/60 dated 8th September 2025 **[Annexure – II]**, addressed to CMD BSNL, wherein we had pointed out the attempt by BSNL authorities to circumvent the said DoP&PW instructions dated 30.11.2021, by issuing ‘fundamentally flawed and destined to fail’ chargesheets to hundreds of BSNL VRS 2019 retirees post-retirement, with a view to retrospectively altering the vigilance status that existed on the date of retirement and thereby we had requested CMD BSNL to declare the chargesheets null and void.

3. We have recently come across a judgment of Hon’ble Supreme Court **[Annexure – III]** categorically observing that **caste verification after retirement will be “largely academic” and “will not serve any purpose”**. The Court emphasized that **such actions only result in “undue harassment of the retired persons,” who have already completed their service based on duly accepted caste certificates**. This judicial pronouncement exposes the irrationality and injustice of BSNL’s current approach. **DoP&PW instructions vide its OM No. 38/09020.00-P&PW (A) (6721) dated 30.11.2021 reflect a studied and humane understanding of the issue, and while not explicitly cited, the essence of the instructions have been effectively upheld by the Hon’ble Supreme Court of India referred to above.**

4. We have also come across a judgment by Hon'ble High Court of Madras in W.P. 35035 of 2023 **[Annexure – IV]** filed by Shri N.Chandrasekaran a BSNL VRS retiree, and setting aside an order of the Secretary, Adi-draavidar and Tribal Welfare Department of Tamilnadu after verification done by it on the community status of the petitioner after his retirement. Quoting the above Supreme Court judgment, the Court has observed that

"It is pertinent to point out that the Hon'ble Apex Court and various High Courts have time and again stressed that verification after retirement is a wasteful exercise and would be purely academic. In similar circumstances, in SLP(C) No.24458/2019 dated 03.03.2023, the Hon'ble Apex Court has held as follows: It is submitted that the respondent No.1 who served in the Railways has superannuated on 28.02.2022 and therefore, the exercise in this case would largely be academic on the aspect of whether she belonged to the claimed Scheduled Tribe category. Considering the above, we deem it is appropriate to order for closure of the proceedings. Accordingly, the Special leave Petition stands disposed of.

6. Considering the facts and circumstances of the case and in the light of the above decision of the Hon'ble Apex Court, we are inclined to set aside the impugned letter dated 07.03.2016 passed by the respondent”.

5. It is pertinent to note that BSNL has complied with the orders of the Hon’ble High Court of Madras by settling the retirement benefits of the petitioner, Shri N. Chandrasekaran **[Annexure – V]**. In view of this established precedent, it is imperative that other BSNL VRS

retirees, who have been denied retirement benefits on identical grounds, are accorded equal treatment and not subjected to any form of discrimination.

6. In light of the above facts, it is respectfully requested to:

1. Rescind DoT letter No.40-09/2022-Pen(T) dated 30.01.2025
2. Direct BSNL to strictly adhere to the DoP&PW OM dated 30.11.2021 and cease all actions that contravene its provisions.
3. Ensure that all pensionary benefits due to these retired employees are released without delay, irrespective of caste verification status.
4. Declare all charge sheets issued post-retirement on this ground as null and void, restoring dignity and justice to the affected pensioners.

This matter demands urgent and compassionate resolution. The retired employees, who have served the nation through BSNL in various capacities, deserve respect and support and not bureaucratic persecution.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,



(R.R. Balasubramanian)

General Secretary

Enclosure: As stated

Copy to:

1. Shri V Srinivas,
Secretary (Pension) DoP&PW
2. Shri Deb Kumar Chakrabarti,
Member (S), DoT
3. Shri A Robert J Ravi,
CMD BSNL