



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]

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No.AIBSNLREA/CHQ/2026/37

Dated: 4th June 2026

To

Shri Pitambar Das,
Joint Secretary,
Tax Policy and Litigation - II,
Room No: 147-C,
Department of Revenue,
Ministry of Finance,
North Block,
New Delhi -110001

**Sub: Request to ensure uniform tax treatment for ex-gratia received by BSNL VRS-2019 retirees
— need for immediate clarificatory instructions by CBDT**

Sir,

While disposing of this association's grievance registered under PMOPG Docket No. **DORVU/E/2026/0003537**, it has been stated by your office that *"This is not a grievance but rather a suggestion for change w.r.t certain provisions of the Income-tax Act, 1961. Accordingly, it is requested that the suggestion may be sent to the office of JS, TPL-2, RNO: 147-C, Ministry of Finance, Deptt. of Revenue, North Block, New Delhi -110001, Tel: 011-23092859 or be forwarded at the email ids – jstpl1@nic.in and jstpl2@nic.in. Hence, this matter is being treated as settled and closed for not being a grievance matter but rather a suggestion for changes in the Income-tax Act, 1961."*

2. We respectfully submit that our representation did **not** seek any amendment to the Income-tax Act or any policy change. Our request was only for a **clarificatory order** in view of the confusion and uncertainty created by divergent decisions of different Income Tax authorities on the same issue. While several authorities have allowed **full exemption** on the ex-gratia received by BSNL VRS-2019 retirees—based on the ITAT Chandigarh order—an equal number have rejected identical claims.

3. Since then, **ITAT Ahmedabad, ITAT Pune, ITAT Chennai, and ITAT Bengaluru** have also allowed full exemption to BSNL VRS retirees. When multiple ITATs across the country have taken a consistent view, identically placed BSNL VRS-2019 retirees cannot be subjected to unequal treatment by different field formations.

4. In this background, we earnestly request that a **clarificatory order** be issued by CBDT, so that Income Tax authorities uniformly follow the settled position when individual BSNL VRS retirees submit their claims. Copy of our letter addressed to the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, which was registered under PMOPG and copies of the ITAT orders of Chandigarh, Ahmedabad, Pune, Chennai, and Bengaluru are attached for ready reference.

5. We shall be grateful if this letter is acknowledged and necessary action is initiated for issuance of such clarification.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,



4/6/26

(R.R. Balasubramanian)
General Secretary

Encl: As stated

Copy to: 1. Shri Narendra Modi,
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India,
2. Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman,
Hon'ble Minister of Finance, Gol
3. Shri Ravi Agrawal,
Chairman, CBDT
4. Shri Pankaj Jindal,
Joint Secretary (TPL-I), CBDT