



ALL INDIA BHARAT SANCHAR NIGAM LIMITED RETIRED EXECUTIVES' ASSOCIATION

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No. AIBSNLREA/CHQ/2014/23

Dated 15.10.2014

To

Shri Jitendra Singh,
Minister of State for (PP),
Lok Nayak Bhawan,
Lodhi Road,
New Delhi 110003.

Subject: Non-settlement of the case for removal of anomaly in pension of absorbed BSNL pensioners who retired between 1.10.2000 and 31.07.2001 - Forcing a long wait of over 14 years to the affected pensions to get justice.

Ref: Item (ix) SI No. 9 of ATR under Para 7 of the Minutes of the 25th Meeting of SCOVA circulated vide F.No. 42/29/2014-P&PW(G) dated 25.09.2014 by DOP&PW

Sir,

We are constraint to state that though the present Government headed by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has declared a policy to remove the genuine problems of the senior citizens, the concerned Departments of the Government have failed to live up to our expectations by failing to resolve the above issue. The issue is also under discussions in the meetings of SCOVA for last few years, but the matter is still unresolved.

2. After formation of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited on 1.10.2000, the employees of the Department of Telecommunications were offered absorption in BSNL and some of those DOT employees who were on the verge of their retirement, though not many in numbers, joined BSNL and subsequently retired from service. These pensioners had their pension fixed on the basis of average of last ten months pay which were drawn partly in CDA and partly in IDA pay scales. Since the CDA pay was less, the average of last ten months pay was also less for them. As a result, their resultant fixation of pension was also on lower side. Had their pay been only in IDA scale, the present problem would not have arisen at all. This, in fact, is a case relating to principle for fixation of pension. Therefore in order to remove their hardships, the principle for fixation of pension needs to be changed.

3. Following a recommendation from VI CPC, the Government has changed the principle for fixation of pension. It is now based on last pay drawn. But this new principle was made effective from 1.1.2006. Had the Government allowed this principle to be applied retrospectively or at least for the present case, these affected pensioners would have got the justice. But DoP&PW in consultation with

DOE, vide its No. 38/6/10-P&PW(A) dated 11.08.2010, informed this Association that the pension of these pre-2006 retirees were fixed correctly and turned down the request to allow fixation of pension on last pay drawn. Thereafter, a partial solution to the problem was found out by DOT in consultation with DoP&PW as circulated vide DoT No. 40-10/2005-Pen(T) dated 27.09.2011 for fixing the pension at 50 % of the minimum of the pay scale. Since this could not satisfy the majority, this Association presented a proposal to DoT that the CDA pay drawn prior to 01-10-2000 may notionally be fixed in IDA pay for the purpose of fixation of pension. DoT agreed to consider the said proposal to notionally convert the pay in CDA scales in IDA pay and allow fixation of pension on the basis of average of last ten months pay.

4. The above proposal is now under consideration of DoP&PW and being discussed in the meetings of SCOVA. Unfortunately, DoP&PW has examined the present proposal on "financial implication" angle and had asked for several information from DoT. As seen in the minutes of SCOVA meeting, the information as asked for by DoP&PW are yet to be obtained from BSNL and sent to them implying that there would be further delay in resolving the issue. Only silver lining in the minutes of last SCOVA meeting is that DoP&PW has agreed to discuss the matter with DOT to find a solution to the issue. If the authorities really intend to resolve the matter, this issue needs to be considered on the basis of principle and not on financial implication angle.

5. In view of the above, we earnestly appeal to you to kindly intervene personally in the above case and allow the affected pensioners to get justice.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,



(S Basu)
General Secretary

Copy to:

- (1) Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad,
Minister of Communications & IT, Law & Justice,
Government of India.
- (2) Shri Thaawar Chand Gehlot,
Minister of Social Justice & Empowerment,
Government of India.