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Life starts after retirement All India BSNL Retired Executives' Association

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#### **Editorial**

#### NOTIONAL INCREMENT - SO NEAR YET SO FAR

IBSNLREA has been taking up the issue of notional increment for pensionary benefits to those who retired a day prior to their date of increment since the year 2015 citing a decision of State Government of Tamilnadu to extend this benefit to its retiring employees. We took up the issue with Department of Personnel & Training (DOP&T) requesting similar orders in respect of all pensioners, but DoE in its reply dated 22.06.2016, had expressed inability to accede to our request. Later the Madras High court had ruled in favour of the petitioner P.Ayyamperumal, in WP 15732/2017 on the same issue, which is widely believed to be the basis for hundreds of all subsequent cases filed by affected individuals in several courts across the country, culminating in the orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in CA 2471 of 2023 between KPTCL & Ors vs Mundinamani & Ors, accepting the judgment of High Court of Karnataka which had directed KPTCL to grant one annual increment which the original writ petitioners earned on the last day of their service for rendering their services preceding one year from the date of retirement with good behaviour and efficiently.

o one can deny the fact that AIBSNLREA has been relentlessly and consistently pursuing the issue all these years promptly and appropriately with all concerned including the Prime Minister, whenever a new development happened in the case. But DoP&T has been dilly dallying over the issue since although Department Expenditure had then informed us that "the issue is under examination in DOPT, the nodal department concerned in the matter." However, on 16.11.2020, DoP&T replied to our letter stating that "the judgment in the case Ayyamperumal is 'in personam', i.e. specific to the case of petitioner only".

n response to another representation from AIBSNLREA, DoP&T gave an ambiguous reply on 15.11.2023 that "Where references are being received in this Department on the subject matter from the administrative Ministry/ Department/ Organisation concerned, it is being advised to take cognizance of the stated position for taking action as deemed appropriate in the matter." On 19.07.2024 we again represented to DoP&T citing Hon'ble Delhi High court order in W.P.(C) 1731/2020 which had quoted the Supreme Court judgment [KPTCL & Ors vs Mundinamani & Ors], and had directed that "the respondents shall pass necessary orders not only in respect

of the petitioners but also in respect of all similarly situated persons". We had requested issue of a common order as directed by Hon'ble Delhi High court.

ater, responding to our letter, DoP&T replied on 30.08.2024 that "issue of general instructions regarding grant of increment" notional "....require concurrence of both D/o Expenditure and D/o Legal Affairs. The matter was accordingly referred to these Departments for consideration. D/o Expenditure did not find justification for issuing a general order on the subject matter. They advised DoPT to consult D/o <u>Legal Affairs based on presentation of the</u> full facts and basis for the present rule. This necessitated further examination of the matter which is underway. Further action, as may be required in this regard, can be taken only after completion of the consultation process".

ubsequently, a Review petition was Ifiled on behalf of the Union of India against the orders of Supreme Court dated 11.04.2023 passed by it in CA 2471/2023 titled KPTCL VS C.P.Mundinamani & Others. While hearing a batch of IAs, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India passed interim orders on 06.09.2024, pending the review petition, "to prevent further litiaation and confusion:" While issuing specific guidelines in respect of date of implementation of orders for persons who have filed writ petitions and succeeded, where the judgment has not attained finality and where no appeal has been preferred, it made it clear that "The judgment dated 11.04.2023 will be given effect to in case of third parties [emphasis is ours] from the date of judgment, that

is, the pension by taking into account one increment will be payable on and after 01.05.2023. Enhanced pension for the period prior to 31.04.2023 will not be paid."

n pursuance of the interim order dated ■ 06.09.2024 by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, DoP&T issued an O.M on 14.10.2024 that "action may be taken to allow the increment on 1st July/1st January to the Central Government Employees who retired/are retiring a day before it became due i.e on 30th June/31st December and have rendered the requisite qualifying service as on the date of their superannuation with satisfactory work and good conduct for calculating the pension admissible to them. The notional increment shall be reckoned only for the purpose of calculating pension admissible and not for the purpose of calculation of other pensionary benefits. The action taken shall be subject to the final outcome of the Review petition pending before the Hon'ble Supreme Court".

The affected pensioners felt that finally they are seeing light at the end of tunnel. But shattering their hope, on 18.10.2024, DoT while circulating DoP&T OM dated 14.10.2024 for information and necessary action, put a restriction that "this OM is applicable to Central Government Employees only". DoT has issued this order hurriedly just four days after the release of DoP&T OM, for reasons not known and without examining the entire history of the case.

A IBSNLREA immediately reacted to the DoT OM, requesting review and reissue of the OM, duly pointing out that "Nowhere does the interim order say that

the "third parties" are only Central Government **Employees.** In fact Mundinamani and others were employees of KPTCL and not employees of the Central Government. This OM defeats the sole purpose of the interim orders by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India aimed at preventing further litigation. Supreme Court in CA 2471/2023 was in complete agreement with the decision of the Division Bench of the High Court of Karnataka direction to KPTCL and others "to grant one annual increment which the original writ petitioners earned on the last day of their service for rendering their services preceding one year from the date of retirement with good behavior and efficiently." Thus the judgment relates to all cases where the employee earned an increment on the last day of their service and not merely to those who retired on 30th June/31st July".

Considering that the Supreme Court has consistently ruled in favor of affected pensioners in this matter and dismissed numerous appeals filed by the UoI, the likelihood of the Supreme Court reversing its interim orders dated 06.09.2024 is slim. However, we cannot be certain that the DoP&T will issue a clear and unambiguous order to benefit all similarly situated pensioners, given the Government's reluctance to grant any benefit to employees or pensioners, no matter how small it be. Furthermore, the DoT will have to be convinced that the Supreme Court orders do not discriminate between Central Government employees and others.

With logic, rationale, and court rulings supporting the affected pensioners, AIBSNLREA remains steadfast in its determination to secure a common order for all similarly placed pensioners. Let us hope that wisdom prevails within the Government.



#### Important Developments of the Month

A Video Conference was held on 17.10.2024, Chaired by Joint Secretary DoP&PW to discuss modalities and way forward for ensuring success of Digital Life Certificate Campaign 3.0. Officials from Department of Posts, India Posts Payment Bank, UIDAI, NIC and registered Pensioners Associations had been invited. After discussions, JS DoP&PW requested all the stakeholders to actively participate in the campaign. The deliberations were not of much importance to BSNL absorbed pensioners as CCAs were not present. However, some important information was shared in the course of discussions. It is being proposed to do away with charging Rs.70 for generation of DLC in Post offices and DLC camps from next year. Instead of all pensioners (Central Government) submitting their Life Certificate in October/November, spreading out the requirement to the whole year with different pensioners submitting LC in different months (like in our case) is being examined.

♣ The monthly virtual meeting of AIBSNLREA CHQ office bearers was held on 01.10.2024 under the Presidentship of Shri V.Chinnapappiah, CHQ President. After the President welcomed the participants, GS listed out the CHQ activities during September 2024 and thanked all the office bearers who had put in their efforts to ensure meetings are held regularly by the Branches. On today's meeting coinciding with the International day of older persons, he appreciated that the office bearers were actually working like youngsters. All the office bearers conveyed the satisfaction of members in the swift action taken by CHQ for payment of pension on the due date. The meeting took note of and placed on record its appreciation over AIBSNLREA East Godavari Branch collecting from its members and donating to AP CM Relief fund, Rs.1,66,501/- towards flood relief work. The meeting appreciated the initiative by Shri GSVSS Varaprasad, Secretary and all the members. GS explained the developments on the matter of restoration of commuted value of pension before 15 years, the related interim orders of courts and AIBSNLREA's plea all along on this issue. GS reported that only one case of delay in sanction of Family Pension was received from Maharashtra Circle and CHQ will take appropriate action on it. All the office bearers presented their report on activities during September 2024 on organisational front and spelled out their plan for October 2024. The meeting ended with the President thanking the participants for keeping the CHQ body live and active.



#### Issues taken up

30.10.2024: AIBSNLREA WRITES TO CMD BSNL REQUESTING TO DISPENSE WITH THE REQUIREMENT OF SUBMISSION OF LIFE CERTIFICATE FOR CONCESSIONAL TELEPHONE PROVIDED TO BSNL RETIRED EMPLOYEES:

AIBSNLREA has written to the CMD BSNL pointing out that "As the concept of rentfree telephone has gone, the annual life certificate requirement has become redundant. Collecting, recording and following up these Life Certificates is only adding to the work load of the already over burdened BSNL employees" and has requested him to cause issue of orders dispensing with the requirement of submission of Life Certificate for concessional FTTH connection provided to BSNL retired employees. View the letter

28.10.2024: AIBSNLREA WRITES TO SECRETARY, DOT REQUESTING REVIEW AND REISSUE OF DOT OM DATED 18.10.2024 CIRCULATING DOP&T OM DATED 14.10.2024 ON GRANT OF NOTIONAL INCREMENT FOR THOSE RETIRING A DAY PRIOR TO THEIR DATE OF INCREMENT:

Conveying the disappointment among the affected BSNL absorbed pensioners over DoT restricting the benefit only to the Central Government Employees, AIBSNLREA has written to Secretary DoT pointing out that restricting the benefit of the interim orders only to the Central Government Employees defeats the sole purpose of the interim orders by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India aimed at preventing further litigation.

AIBSNLREA has requested him to cause review of the DoT OM dated 18.10.2024 referred to above and re-issue it with instructions to implement the interim orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in respect of all pensioners including absorbed BSNL pensioners. View the letter

25.10.2024: AIBSNLREA WRITES TO THE CHAIRMAN CBDT REQUESTING CLOSURE OF NOTICE ISSUED U/S 220 (2) OF INCOME TAX ACT TO SHRI MADHUSUDHAN MUKHERJEE, RETD JTO, KOLKATA:

AIBSNLREA has now sought the attention of Chairman CBDT to section 205 of IT Act 1961 which stipulates that "in case of an assessee whose tax has been deducted at source but not deposited to the Government's account by the deductor, the deductee assessee shall not be called upon to pay the demand to the extent tax has been deducted from his income. It was further specified that section 205 of the Income-tax Act, 1961 puts a bar on direct demand against the assessee in such cases and the demand on account of tax credit mismatch in such situations cannot be enforced coercively" and has requested him to direct the concerned authorities to close the notice issued to Shri Madhusudhan Mukherjee and to refund the amount which has been adjusted. View the letter

24.10.2024: AIBSNLREA WRITES TO THE SECRETARY DPE REQUESTING HIS PERSONAL ATTENTION TO THE DELAY IN ISSUE OF ORDERS OF REVISION OF IDA RATE W.E.F. 01.10.2024:

AIBSNLREA has written to the Secretary, DPE pointing out that the unusual delay is leading to unwarranted rumours, anxiety and concern among the pensioners who are waiting to get their dearness relief revised and requesting to cause issue of orders for revision of IDA w.e.f. 01.10.2024 immediately and to ensure that there is no delay in the future. View the letter

23.10.2024: AIBSNLREA WRITES TO THE SECRETARY (PENSION) REQUESTING HIS INTERVENTION IN GETTING GUIDELINES ISSUED BY DOH&FW ON GRACE PERIOD AFTER A BSNL PENSIONER SURRENDERS HIS BSNLMRS CARD AND BEFORE HE GETS CGHS CARD:

AIBSNLREA has now sought the intervention of Secretary (Pension) drawing his attention to the issue which was mentioned by AIBSNLREA in the interactive meeting he held with registered pensioners associations on 21.03.2024. AIBSNLREA has requested him to take up the matter with Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and ensure issue of suitable guidelines, in order to take care of the isolated cases of a BSNL pensioner or his family member falling sick after surrendering BSNLMRS card but before obtaining CGHS card. View the letter

17.10.2024: AIBSNLREA AGAIN WRITES TO THE CGCA, DOT REGARDING AVOIDABLE DELAY IN ISSUE OF PENSIONER ID CARD TO BSNL PENSIONERS IN REVISED FORMAT:

AIBSNLREA has once again drawn the attention of CGCA, DoT, the huge delay in issue of Pensioner ID card to BSNL Pensioners in the DoP&PW specified format obviously due to shortage of staff and infrastructure in CCA offices and has requested to consider the practice being followed by CGHS, allowing the beneficiaries to download the ID card,

get it printed and laminated on their own to save cost, labour and delay in issue of ID card. View the letter

15.10.2024: AIBSNLREA WRITES TO THE DIRECTOR (HR) BSNL REQUESTING REGULARISATION OF PENSION, RELEASE OF GRATUITY & LEAVE ENCASHMENT AND GRANT OF TBU TO E5 SCALE IN RESPECT OF SHRI P.S.PRASAD, RETD SDE DHANBAD, CONSEQUENT TO HIS ACQUITTAK IN A CBI CASE:

AIBSNLREA has drawn the attention of Director (HR) BSNL to the mental sufferings inflicted upon Shri Prem Shankar Prasad, Retd SDE Dhanbad, due to denial of Time Bound Upgradation, non-release of gratuity and leave encashment citing a judicial proceeding that has been prolonging for 20 years which has now ended in his acquittal and has requested issue of instructions to all concerned to speed up the process of regularisation of his pension in order to at least partially undo the injustice meted out to him. View the letter

08.10.2024: AIBSNLREA WRITES TO CGCA, DOT REGARDING DELAY IN SANCTION AND PAYMENT OF FAMILY PENSION TO THE SPOUSE OF LATE SHRI ARJUN MAHADU DAVANGE, RETD DGM, O/O CGM WTR:

AIBSNLREA has drawn the attention of CGCA DoT, New Delhi to the delay in sanction and payment of Family Pension to the spouse of Late Shri Arjun Mahadu Davange, Retd DGM, O/o CGM WTR, resulting in her not receiving pension since July 2024 and has requested him to ensure that the family pension is sanctioned and paid immediately. View the letter

### 07.10.2024: AIBSNLREA WRITES TO CGCA, DOT AGAIN REQUESTING AUTOMATION OF THE PROCESS OF ISSUE OF CDA-IDA MAPPING CERTIFICATE:

In response to an earlier letter from AIBSNLREA requesting automation of the process in SAMPANN so that the pensioner can download the certificate, CGCA had replied that "the feasibility to incorporate such IDA/CDA mapping facility will be examined and will be taken for consideration in future development." AIBSNLREA has now sent a reminder and has requested personal attention by the CGCA to ensure that the facility is implemented at the earliest. View the letter

## GOVERNMENT/BSND ORDERS & DETTERS

25.10.2024: DOT CIRCULATES DOP&T OM DATED 14.10.2024 ON GRANT OF NOTIONAL INCREMENT TO THOSE WHO RETIRED ON 30TH JUNE/31ST DECEMBER FOR INFORMATION AND NECESSARY ACTION AND SAYS THIS OM IS APPLICABLE FOR ONLY CENTRAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES:

While circulating DoP&T OM dated 14.10.2024 which stated that ""action may be taken to allow the increment on 1st July/1st January to the Central Government Employees who retired/are retiring a day before it became due i.e on 30th June/31st December and have rendered the requisite qualifying service as on the date of their superannuation with satisfactory work and good conduct for calculating the pension admissible to

them", for information and necessary action, DoT has further stated that "this OM is applicable to Central Government Employees only". View the DoT OM

25.10.2024: DOP&PW REITERATES THAT SANCTION OF PENSION/PENSIONARY BENEFITS INCLUDING EXTRAORDINARY PENSION IS THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF ADMINISTRATIVE MINISTRY/DEPARTMENT/ORGANISATION:

DoP&PW has issued a OM vide No.1/15/2024-P&PW(F)/9809 dated 25.10.2024, reiterating that sanction of pension/pensionary benefits including EOP is the sole responsibility of the administrative Ministry/Department/Organisation which should release all retirement benefits at the earliest possible and delay in payment of pension, gratuity and family pension attracts payment of interest. View the DoP&PW OM

24.10.2024: DPE UPLOADS ITS LETTER DATED 22.10.2024 ON REVISED IDA W.E.F 01.10.2024:

DPE has uploaded its letter dated 22.10.2024, revising the IDA to 224.2% w.e.f. 01.10.2024 for the CPSEs where the revised pay scales were last implemented w.e.f.01.01.2007. View the DPE OM

19.10.2024: DOP&PW CLARIFIES ON ACTION TO BE TAKEN REGARDING SETTLEMENT OF FAMILY PENSION BETWEEN TWO WIVES OF GOVERNMENT SERVANT OR PENSIONER UNDER CCS (PENSION) RULES, 2021:

DoP&PW has issued an O.M vide F.No.1/1(33)/2024-p&pw(e) dated 10.10.2024, clarifying that such cases needs to be processed in accordance with the provisions of CCS (Pension) Rules, 2021 and the issue of second wife or second marriage being legal or otherwise may be decided first in consultation with Department of Legal Affairs on case to case basis for deciding the eligibility of Family Pension. View the DoP&PW OM

19.10.2024: DOP&PW REITERATES THE PROVISIONS REGARDING CONDITIONS OF GRANT OF ADDITIONAL PENSION TO THE RETIRED CENTRAL GOVERNMENT CIVIL EMPLOYEES COVERED UNDER CCS (PENSION) RULES, 2021:

DoP&PW has issued an O.M vide F.No.38/10(04)/2024-P&PW(A) (e 10124) dated 18.10.2024, reiterating the provisions regarding grant of additional pension after completion of 80 years of age or above by a retired Government servant covered under CCS (Pension) Rules, 2021. View the DoP&PW OM

19.10.2024: DOP&PW REITERATES THE PROVISIONS REGARDING REVISION OF PENSION AFTER AUTHORISATION UNDER CCS (PENSION) RULES, 2021:

DoP&PW has issued an O.M vide F.No.38/10(04)/2024-P&PW(A) (e 10124) dated 18.10.2024, reiterating the provisions regarding revision of pension after authorisation under CCS (Pension) Rules, 2021. View the DoP&PW OM

#### 19.10.2024: DOP&PW RECIRCULATES EARLIER OM/CLARIFICATIONS ISSUED DURING OCTOBER 2022:

In order to ease out Rules, DoP&PW has recirculated 12 OMs/Clarifications issued during October 2022, after notification of CCS (Pension) Rules, 2021, for strict compliance by all concerned. View the DoP&PW OM

# 18.10.2024: DOP&PW REVIEWS THE PROCESS OF CPENGRAMS AND ISSUES REVISED GUIDELINES, TAKING CARE OF OUR SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT IN THE SYSTEM:

AIBSNLREA vide its letter dated 27.05.2024 had written to the Secretary (Pension), DoP&PW, suggesting a few improvements in CPENGRAMS. We had pointed out that "The authority who receives the grievance docket which is not concerned to him closes the case with the reply that the matter does not pertain to him." The revised guidelines stipulate that "In no case, grievance shall be closed summarily by stating, 'it does not pertain to this Office. If the grievance does not pertain to the GRO to whom it has been forwarded, he shall immediately forward the same to the concerned GRO, if he knows the correct mapping. Otherwise, he shall return it back to the Nodal Public Grievance Officer of his Ministry/Department and the Nodal Officer shall forward the grievance to concerned GRO or to the DOPPW'. We had suggested that "All the appellate authorities should be directed to sincerely examine the grievance and give a speaking order." The revised guidelines specify that "The Appellate Authority shall dispose of the appeal within 30 days of receipt of the appeal. A speaking order shall be passed, attaching relevant documents, if any." We are thankful to DoP&PW for duly taking care of our suggestions for improvement in the CPENGRAMS. View AIBSNLREA letter View the DoP&PW OM

### 14.10.2024: DOPT FINALLY ISSUES ORDERS ALLOWING NOTIONAL INCREMENT TO THOSE WHO RETIRED A DAY PRIOR TO DATE OF INCREMENT:

In pursuance of the interim order dated 06.09.2024 by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, DoP&T has issued an O.M vide No.19/116/2024-Pers.Pol.(Pay)(Pt) dated 14th October 2024, in consultation with DoE and DoLA that "action may be taken to allow the increment on 1st July/1st January to the Central Government Employees who retired/are retiring a day before it became due i.e on 30th June/31st December and have rendered the requisite qualifying service as on the date of their superannuation with satisfactory work and good conduct for calculating the pension admissible to them. The notional increment shall be reckoned only for the purpose of calculating pension admissible and not for the purpose of calculation of other pensionary benefits." The action taken shall be subject to the final outcome of the Review petition pending before the Hon'ble Supreme Court. View the DoP&T OM

03.10.2024: CO-OPERATIVE OMBUDSMAN RESPONDS TO AIBSNLREA LETTER DATED 18.09.2024 REQUESTING CONSIDERATION OF ALL COMPLAINTS RECEIVED WHEN SUBMITTED IN FORM VI WITHOUT TREATING THEM AS NON-MAINTAINABLE ON THE WRONG PLEA OF SUB-JUDICE:

AIBSNLREA had written to the Co-operative Ombudsman vide its letter dated 18.09.2024, pointing out that his office has relied on the words of the Chennai Society without verifying the facts as to whether the matter is factually sub-judice and requesting to consider all the complaints received when submitted in Form IV, without treating them as not-maintainable on the wrong plea of 'sub-judice'. Co-operative Ombudsman has replied that "all complaints from aggrieved members will be examined and resolved in accordance with the prescribed procedures. Consequently, it is essential that complaints to be submitted in Form VI, adhering to the information required in Columns 8 and 9 of the relevant rules." All the affected pensioners may submit their complaints now in Form VI, with a covering letter specifically mentioning that they have not approached any court seeking relief of ordering the Society to refund their dues. Members will be guided about the content of the covering letter and filling up column 8 & 9 of Form VI through Tamilnadu State WhatsApp Community. View the letter from Ombudsman

#### RESPONSE/ACTION TAKEN ON



#### AIBSNLREA'S REPRESENTATIONS

23.10.2024: CCA MAHARASHTRA & GOA RESPONDS TO AIBSNLREA LETTER DATED 08.10.2024 REGARDING DELAY IN SANCTION AND PAYMENT OF FAMILY PENSION TO THE SPOUSE OF LATE SHRI ARJUN MAHADU DAVANGE, RETD DGM, O/O CGM WTR:

AIBSNLREA had written to the CGCA, DoT on 08.10.2024 regarding Delay in sanction and payment of Family Pension to the spouse of Late Shri Arjun Mahadu Davange, Retd DGM, O/o CGM WTR and requesting early sanction of Family Pension. CCA Maharashtra has replied, attaching a copy of the Sanction order for Family Pension to Smt.Sadhana Davange. View the Sanction order

16.10.2024: MTNL RESPONDS TO AIBSNLREA LETTER DATED 11.09.2024 REGARDING DELAY IN PROVISION OF PAID FTTH IN LIEU OF DISCONNECTED RSTC TO SHRI M.L.MALHOTRA, RETD.JT.DDG(IA), BSNL CO:

In response to AIBSNLREA letter dated 11.09.2024 to MTNL regarding Delay in provision of paid FTTH connection in lieu of disconnected RSTC to Shri M.L.Malhotra, Retd. Jt.DDG (IA), BSNL CO, MTNL has informed us that "OB for FTTH connection has been issued vide No.13881 dated 21.09.2024 and wiring is going to be done today itself (25.09.2024)." View the MTNL reply

10.10.2024: CGCA TAKES ACTION ON AIBSNLREA LETTER DATED 13.09.2024 REGARDING FOLLOWING OF DOT GUIDELINES REGARDING CCA PERFORMING THE ROLE OF HOO IN SPECIFIC CASES OF REVISION:

AIBSNLREA vide its letter dated 13.09.2024 had drawn the attention of CGCA, DoT to DoT letter No.7-47/2016/PFP-Policy/Pt-1/3402-3433 dated 25.02.2021 wherein it was conveyed that in respect of conversion to Family Pension when the eligible claimant is other than the family pensioner mentioned in PPO and commutation revision (including

BSNL VRS 2019), all SAMPANN pensioners may submit the respective forms in regard to above two revisions directly to the CCA offices which shall be performing the role of Head of the Office for the purpose of these two revisions and that since the past few months Tamilnadu CCA has been insisting on routing of the Forms through the BSNL Head of SSA/Unit. CGCA DoT has now forwarded our letter to Tamilnadu CCA and requesting that the instructions issued by DoT HQ vide its letter dated 25.02.2021 be followed in specific cases of revisions. View the CGCA letter

04.10.2024: CCA GUJARAT REPLIES TO AIBSNLREA LETTER DATED 23.09.2024 ADDRESSED TO THE CGCA DOT REQUESTING TO REMOVE THE CONFUSION IN PPO NUMBER IN SAMPANN IN RESPECT OF SHRI A.H.PATEL, RETD JTO, GUJARAT CIRCLE:

CCA Gujarat has sent an email in response to AIBSNLREA letter dated 23.09.2024 addressed to the CGCA DoT, requesting to remove the confusion in PPO number in SAMPANN in respect of Shri A.H.Patel, Retd JTO, Gujarat Circle, attaching a letter sent to Shri A.H.Patel wherein it has been conveyed that the PPO number already generated through SAMPANN will be his PPO for all future correspondences and that his grievance has already been taken up with SAMPANN helpdesk. View the email from CCA Gujarat

03.10.2024: CO-OPERATIVE OMBUDSMAN RESPONDS TO AIBSNLREA LETTER DATED 18.09.2024 REQUESTING CONSIDERATION OF ALL COMPLAINTS RECEIVED WHEN SUBMITTED IN FORM VI WITHOUT TREATING THEM AS NON-MAINTAINABLE ON THE WRONG PLEA OF SUB-JUDICE:

AIBSNLREA had written to the Co-operative Ombudsman vide its letter dated 18.09.2024, pointing out that his office has relied on the words of the Chennai Society without verifying the facts as to whether the matter is factually sub-judice and requesting to consider all the complaints received when submitted in Form IV, without treating them as not-maintainable on the wrong plea of 'sub-judice'. Co-operative Ombudsman has replied that "all complaints from aggrieved members will be examined and resolved in accordance with the prescribed procedures. Consequently, it is essential that complaints to be submitted in Form VI, adhering to the information required in Columns 8 and 9 of the relevant rules." All the affected pensioners may submit their complaints now in Form VI, with a covering letter specifically mentioning that they have not approached any court seeking relief of ordering the Society to refund their dues. Members will be guided about the content of the covering letter and filling up column 8 & 9 of Form VI through Tamilnadu State WhatsApp Community. View the letter from Ombudsman



#### BRANCHES IN ACTION

22.10.2024: GENERAL BODY MEETING OF AIBSNLREA BERHAMPORE BRANCH (WEST BENGAL STATE) HELD:

A General Body Meeting of AIBSNLREA Berhampore Branch was held on 20.10.2024 at Berhampore Telephone Exchange Premises under the Presidentship of Shri D P Maitra. After observing silence in memory of deceased members, Branch Secretary Shri T K

Bhowmick welcomed the attended members and discussed on the issues like I -Card, Life Certificate, Family pension, Notional increment, KYP, BSNLMRS/CGHS, additional quantum of pension after 80 years, restoration of Commutation as per Chandigarh H/C, Pension Revision wef 01.01.2017, etc. Shri S K Biswas 85 years old participated with enthusiasm which will be inspiring others.

#### 22.10.2024: GENERAL BODY MEETING OF BHOPAL BRANCH (MP STATE) HELD:

General Body meeting of AIBSNLREA Bhopal branch was held on 20th October 2024 in the Hotel Sudershan Palace, MP Nagar, Bhopal under the Chairmanship of Shri K. Nagrajan, President. Dais was shared by Shri B S Rajput, Organising Secretary, CHQ, Shri OP Sharma, Vice President and Dr H S Saxena Secretary. Shri S K Agrawal and Shri R.K Tiwari, who have completed 75 years of age were honoured by Shrifal, shal and flowers. [View MP State page of State News section for full report]. View the Photos

### 22.10.2024: GENERAL BODY MEETING OF AIBSNLREA MUMBAI BRANCH (MAHARASHTRA STATE) HELD:

The General Body meeting of AIBSNLREA Mumbai branch was held on 19.10.2024 in CGM CNTX (W) Conference Hall under the Presidentship of Shri P.M Kulkarni. President welcomed all and gave valuable information on various issues. Two minutes silence was observed in memory of deceased members. Branch secretary Shri S.R.Yadav read out the minutes of the last General body meeting which was passed without any addition/Omission. He addressed the house and informed about all developments regarding issue of Identity card, medical bills etc. State Secretary Shri S.P.Varma addressed the house and informed about developments at circle and CHQ level. He informed the house about I/Card, Correction in I/Cards and correction of personal data in Sampann. Shri M. M. Dhakate gave vote of thanks.

### 21.10.2024: GENERAL BODY MEETING OF AIBSNLREA THANJAVUR BA BRANCH (TAMILNADU STATE) HELD:

The General Body meeting of AIBSNLREA, Thanjavur BA Branch was conducted in a very grand manner at Mayiladuthurai on 19.10.2024. Shri.V.Chinnapappiah CHQ President was the special invitee. Thirty two members participated in the meeting enthusiastically. Shri E.Rajasekaran presided over the meeting. Shri R.Ramanathan welcomed all to the meeting. Shri.R.Srinivasan, Secretary explained in detail the functioning of the branch and its activities. At least a dozen members spoke on various issues of the pensioners and offered their comments and suggestions. [View Tamilnadu Page of State News section for full report]. View the Photos

### 21.10.2024: AIBSNLREA AHMEDNAGAR BRANCH (MAHARASHTRA STATE) HOLDS ITS GENERAL BODY MEETING:

The General Body meeting of AIBSNLREA Ahmednagar Branch was held on 19/10/2024 at the meeting hall of Hotel Sagar Ahmednagar under the Chairmanship of Shri. Vijay Pawar, President. After welcome note, discussions were held on the report of Branch Secretary. Issues related to CGHS facilities, Pension revision court cases, Restoration of Commutation after 10.8 years and the issue of notional increment to those who retired

on last day of June and December were also discussed. Branch Secretary Shri D. A. Bhadange replied to the queries, to the satisfaction of the members. Senior most members Shri M B Bankar, Shri Ghodke and Shri Barhate from Beed SSA were also present. The meeting concluded with Vote of thanks by Shri Shankarao Pawar.

#### 18.10.2024: GENERAL BODY MEETING OF AIBSNLREA AGRA BRANCH (UP STATE) HELD:

The General Body meeting of AIBSNLREA Agra Branch was held on 13/10/2024 at Parmarth Dham Bateshwar, Distt Agra under the Chairmanship of Shri B.C. Mishra, Branch President. After welcoming the members, discussions were held on the report of Branch Secretary. Issues related to CGHS, pension revision court cases, restoration of commutation and issue of notional increments to those who retired on last day of June and December etc. were discussed. Branch Secretary Dr. A K Dubey replied to other queries to the satisfaction of the members. The senior most member present, Shri D P Upadhyaya thanked all for the arrangements. Meeting ended with final vote of thanks by the President Shri B C Mishra.

### 14.10.2024: ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING OF AIBSNLREA ERODE BRANCH (TAMILNADU STATE) HELD:

Annual General body meeting of AIBSNLREA Erode branch was held on 08/10/2024 at Kohinoor hotel, Erode. Fouty one members attended the meeting presided over by the Branch President Shri K.Shanmugam. Shri S.E.Manian, Secretary, welcomed the Chief quests & members. Annual report submitted by him was approved by the house. Shri V.Dhakshinamurthy State President AIBSNLREA appreciated the Branch for their collective efforts and narrated some issues of the pensioners. Shri M.Krishnakumar State Organising Secretary shared his experience on migrating to CGHS from BSNL MRS. Shri P.Duraisamy shared his experience about IT related issues, changing the name in PAN Card etc. Shri S.Rajasekaran touched issues regarding problems faced in migration of SAMPANN pensioners like 'missing datas' in new PPO issued. Shri V. Chinnapappaiah. CHQ President elaborately spoke about pension revision, CGHS, Chennai society issues, our court case on 78.2% fitment and one notional increment when employee retires & increment falls on the next day. Shri M.S.Radhakrishnan State Secretary in his speech summarised all the issues & development in CCA Chennai office regarding payment of pension, family pension, FMA, Chennai society issues etc. New office bearers were elected unanimously with Shri K.Shanmugam as President, Shri K.Gopalakrishnan as Secretary and Shri S.Komarasami as Finance Secretary. Meeting ended with delicious lunch and in a joyous atmosphere. View the Photos

### 14.10.2024: GENERAL BODY MEETING OF AIBSNLREA LUCKNOW BRANCH (UP STATE) HELD:

The General Body meeting of AIBSNLREA Lucknow Branch was held on 10/10/2024 in the Conference Hall Of Sanchar Sadan under the Chairmanship of Shri B.L. Mishra Branch President. After observing silence in memory of deceased members, discussions were held on report of Branch Secretary, long pending medical bills, issues related to CGHS and restoration of commutation. As Branch Secretary Shri S.R.Upadyay wanted to be relieved due to personal reasons, Shri A.K.Sharma was elected as Secretary

unanimously. Shri K.D. Tripathi Retd.DGM joined as a Lifetime member. State Secretary Shri V.P.Singh delivered Special Address. Meeting ended with the President thanking all the participants.

### 12.10.2024: GENERAL BODY MEETING OF AIBSNLREA PALAKAD BRANCH (KERALA STATE) HELD:

A General body meeting of Palakkad Branch was held on 08.10.2024 Tuesday at Top In Town Auditorium at 11AM. 48 members attended the meeting from different parts of the district ignoring their old age and health conditions. After a silent prayer, Secretary Shri P. Prabhakaran welcomed the gathering. Branch President Shri T.Ramanathan, Retd DGM(F), in his presidential address stressed the need to enroll more members to our association to strengthen the Association. He gave a brief account of the status of the pending court cases. During the discussion on organisational matters, the Secretary replied to all the questions raised by members on all the pending issues like pension revision, CGHS and BSNLMRS, and feasibility of getting more hospitals empanelled under CGHS from Palakkad area and ABPMJAY(AYUSHMAN BHARATH PRADHAN MANTHRI JANA AROGYA YOJANA). The meeting was concluded at 1 PM after vote of thanks by Asst Secretary Shri T.P.Krishnanunni, Retd DE. Lunch was served after the meeting.

#### 09.10.2024: AIBSNLREA PUNE BRANCH (MAHARASHTRA STATE) HOLDS ITS GENERAL BODY MEETING:

AIBSNLREA Pune Branch conducted its Quarterly General Body meeting on 4th October 2024 at Vardshri Sabhagruha under the Presidentship of Dr.S.K.Ramamurthy President. 102 members including one new member were present. In his address, the President informed the house that AIBSNLREA Pune Branch strength has increased to 211 members. He appealed to all members for inducting more and more new members. The proceedings started with a devotional prayer by Smt. B.B. Joshi. Shri S.C. Patil Branch Secretary thanked all for their continued support after formation of Pune branch on 12-04-2014 and gave an outline of all the events in the earlier years. He congratulated all the members whose DLC was due in July to September 2024 for successfully submitting life certificate. Minutes of State Secretary's meeting with CCA officials on 27-09-2024 were circulated. Shri N.R.Jagtap Finance Secretary submitted the financial report and the House approved it. Financial report for the Quarterly Birthday celebration was presented by Shri R. H. Nipane Asst. Finance secretary and was approved by the house. Throughout Parallel activity of Submission of DLC by needy members, Grievances registration and Issue of Information catalogues was carried out. Election of office bearers was conducted by senior member Shri C.M.Saste and new body was elected unanimously. View the List of New office bearers and photos

### 02.10.2024: AIBSNLREA JABALPUR BRANCH (MP STATE) HOLDS ITS GENERAL BODY MEETING:

General body meeting of AIBSNLREA Jabalpur branch was held on 25/9/24 at Indian coffee house Ghantaghar. 24 members attended the meeting. President Shri C D khadse welcomed the members. Shri A N Bhargav shared his experience about submission of

digital life certificate. MP circle CCA office is very supportive in this matter. He also said that members can contact him in case of any problem. Birthday celebration of members whose birthday fell in the month August and September was done by serving sweet, snacks and coffee. Shri Bhanu Prakash shared his experience on tour to U K. Shri M K Pande and Shri C D Khadse rendered song, Shri S G Helkar played mouth organ, Shri M Vijai and others shared Classic jokes. Meeting ended in a joyous atmosphere.

### 01.10.2024: AIBSNLREA KALABURAGI BRANCH (KARNATAKA STATE) HOLDS ITS GENERAL BODY MEETING:

A General body meeting of AIBSNLREA Kalaburagi Branch was held on 29.09.2024 in Hotel Venkatgiri near Ram mandir circle Kalaburagi, under the Presidentship of Shri I.S.Naveli. 15 members, including four new members attended the meeting. Secretary Shri G S Hugar welcomed the new members with Rose flowers and spoke about the present status of Court case of payment of arrears of 78.2% IDA merger, stopping of commutation recovery after 10 years 8 months based on CAT Chandigarh judgement, counting of notional increment falling after the day of retirement and pension revision. In respect of CGHS issues, he said that GS is vigorously pursuing the above cases with administration. Shri M.D.Joshi, Finance Secretary spoke about the activities of the Branch. It was unanimously decided to hold the AGB on 15.12.2024. The meeting ended with the President thanking all the participants and was followed by High Tea.



## STATEMENT OF AMOUNT RECEIVED DURING OCTOBER 2024

**01. Kalaburagi Branch (Karnataka State)** deposited Rupees One Thousand Two Hundred (Rs. 1200/-) only on 08.10.2024 towards CHQ quota for Four new Life members.

#### KIND ATTENTION BRANCH/STATE SECRETARIES

It is requested that immediately after depositing any amount into CHQ Account, it may please be ensured that details like Branch Name, Amount deposited, purpose of the deposit like Quota, Donation etc are sent to CHQ through CHQ email.

Website: https://www.aibsnlrea.org

Edited and published by R.R.Balasubramanian, General Secretary, AIBSNLREA.