

Re: For Kind attention of Co-operative Ombudsman - 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

From: Amit Sachdeva (amit.sachdeva88@gov.in)

To: gensecaibsnlrea@yahoo.com

Cc: mscs-ombudsman@gov.in

Date: Monday, September 9, 2024 at 04:05 PM GMT+5:30

Sir,

The complaint has been examined in terms of MSCS Act, 2002 and rules made there under. It is requested to submit the complaint to this office in form VI prescribed under rule 30H(2) of MSCS Rules, 2002 fulfilling all the requirements/ procedures mentioned therein.

From: "AlokAgarwal" <mscs-ombudsman@gov.in>

To: "Amit Sachdeva" <amit.sachdeva88@gov.in>

Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 3:44:41 PM

Subject: Fwd: For Kind attention of Co-operative Ombudsman - 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

From: gensecaibsnlrea@yahoo.com

To: regmscs@gmail.com

Cc: "Dr. Ashish Kumar Bhutani" <secy-coop@gov.in>, "Shri V. Srinivas" <secy-arp@nic.in>, "Dhrubajyoti Sengupta" <js-doppw@gov.in>

Sent: Wednesday, August 21, 2024 10:58:43 AM

Subject: For Kind attention of Co-operative Ombudsman - 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

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,

-R R Balasubramanian, GS AIBSNLREA