

THANK YOU

*By Shri S.Ratnasubramanian, Dy.G.M. Telecom BSNL (Retd)
[Joint Secretary(South) , AIBSNLREA CHQ &
Former Organizing Secretary TESA (I) CHQ]*

We are not prophets. But we have a clear understanding of pension rules and also the law of the land. We are under no compulsion to listen to the dictates of some others nor we dance to the tune of any powers that be and for us our masters are our members only whose well being and benefit we always cherish. That is why what we told, what we propagated, what we demanded and what we asserted two years ago, right from February 2009 when the pay revision of executives was approved by DPE and was about to be implemented by BSNL, regarding the revision of pension for past pensioners of BSNL, regarding the type of pension, the method , the formula and the consolidation of pension, has finally come true.

We consider our association as a platform for our service to the pensioners who believe in us. Hence we do not indulge in marketing of the organization; have never considered other organizations as a competitor and hence we have never indulged in cheap publicity or entered into criticism of others. Even when the stand of some service associations/ unions have been detrimental to the interests of the past pensioners we just pointed out the right thing and discussed the issue without naming anybody.

And now we have won. We have won the long drawn battle of revision of IDA pension for past pensioners of BSNL retired prior to 01-01-2007. We have won the battle we started in early February 2009 when we addressed letter to Secretary DoT on 2nd February 2009, quoting FCI orders of pension revision, demanding IDA pension revision on the same principles of FCI order. And that was at a time when no other pensioners associations of BSNL pensioners were in the field in all India level and when some unions/associations of serving non executives/executives were vociferous protagonists of CDA pension. The delay in the revision of pension made the past pensioners so anxious and many pensioners associations were formed subsequently. Initially some pensioners associations also fell a prey to the propaganda of vested interests for pension revision on CDA pattern.. We battled alone and our consistent stand and arguments and write ups in our website made many others to realize the reality and finally they fell in line though a few still tried in vain to upset the cart till the last minute by creating confusion.

And now we have won the battle. This victory is not only of the few of the association who spearheaded for the noble cause but of each and every member who reposed trust in us that our stand is correct.

We thank one and all who have stood with us all the time. We thank all our members who have reposed faith in us despite the vicious propaganda by others and helped us to attain the goal.

Thank you.