



# ALL INDIA BSNL DOT PENSIONERS ASSOCIATION

[Registered No. S/68836/2010]

## Central Head Quarters

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AIBDPA/Circular No.2/2016

July 19, 2016

To

All CHQ Office Bearers/Circle Secretaries  
District Secretaries and Affiliates

Dear Comrade,

***Both 78.2% IDA merger and abolition of 60:40 condition settled.  
Historical Achievement of sustained struggles  
by employees and pensioners.***

On behalf of the CHQ, I earnestly convey our hearty congratulations to all the employees and pensioners for this double delight. We had been fighting to end this discrimination against the BSNL pensioners retired prior to 10.06.2013 for the last three years. The Central Cabinet in its meeting held on 05.07.2016 has approved extension of 78.2% IDA pension merger to BSNL pensioners retired before 10.06.2013 and undoing the cabinet decision on 60:40 condition for payment of pensionary benefits to BSNL pensioners. The significant turnaround was that we could ensure the full support of the BSNL Unions, both executive and non executive, from the very beginning.

***The Struggles and Strikes.***

The Joint Action Committee of BSNL Non-Executives Unions successfully conducted a one day strike on 27-11-2014. The Forum of BSNL Unions / Associations included this vital issue in their charter of demands and conducted a phased program of agitations culminating in the glorious two days strike on 21,22 April, 2015. And in the discussion on the strike issues with the Secretary, DoT, on 01-05-2015, the leaders of the Forum under the leadership of Com.V.A.N.Namboodiri, Convener and also Advisor, AIBDPA effectively focused the issues of 78.2% IDA and waiving of 60:40 condition. When the settlement was delayed, the Forum staged a countrywide Black Badge Demonstration on 22-12-2015. Sustained struggle by AIBDPA.

AIBDPA started pursuing issue from 14-06-2013 when the CHQ leaders met the top officers both in BSNL and DoT for extension of this benefit to the BSNL pensioners retired prior to 10-06-2013. We could meet the Hon'ble Minister for Communications Shri. Ravi Shankar Prasad twice at crucial junctures on 13-05-2015 and 09-03-2016. We had to meet three DoT Secretaries during the period of three years, namely, Shri.M.F.Farooqui, Shri.Rakesh Garg and later Shri. J.S.Deepak. We had to pursue the issue with the officers of the Department of Expenditure from Joint Secretary to the Section Officer. CHQ did not hesitate to conduct struggles whenever the situation warranted, which are mentioned below:

1. Mass Dharna at Circle/SSA level on 29-08-2013.
2. Protest Day at District level with FAX message to Communications Minister and DoT Secretary on 25-10-2013.
3. CCA / Circle office March on 28-11-2013.
4. Sanchar Bhawan March on 20-11-2014.

5. **Post Card Campaign to Prime Minister in May, 2015.**
6. **Two days Relay Hunger Fast at CCA/CGM office on 21, 22 July, 2015.**
7. **Mass Dharna at District level on 10-03-2016.**

In addition, we had taken up with the 7<sup>th</sup> Central Pay Commission the issues of waiving of 60:40 condition and implementing mandatory pension revision whenever the pay is revised for the BSNL employees and it was included in the common memorandum submitted by Confederation and BCPC. Our Advisor Com.V.A.N.Namboodiri presented the issues effectively in the discussion with the 7th Central Pay Commission. CHQ wrote detailed letters to the Prime Minister, Finance Minister. Some of the MPs on our initiative wrote letters to both Prime Minister and Communications Minister for early settlement of the issue.

During the three years period, we had to face several twists and turns, most of them unexpected too, but could overcome all such crisis with the timely interventions and struggles. And our strength on such occasions was the organization and the whole-hearted support the pensioners. So the credit of this great achievement goes to all the comrades who stood as a rock in all the struggles with confidence and determination. Red salute Comrades!

***Orders on 78.2% IDA merger has been issued by DoT.***

Orders on extension of the benefit of 78.2% IDA merger has been now issued by the DoT on 18.07.2016. We had already met the concerned officers in this regard and urged for early issue of the orders. As you are aware, only notional fixation will be made from 01-01-2007 with financial effect from 10-06-2013. It may take some time for payment and CHQ is trying our best to minimize the delay in this regard.

***Donation @ Rs.1,000/- to be collected.***

CHQ is fully aware of the precarious financial position of all our units and this is an opportunity to improve the same. BSNL pensioners entitled for the 78.2% merger would get arrears for three years and our District/Area/Branch units are requested to collect donations from such members @ Rs.1,000/. The amount collected is to be distributed as follows; District; 40%, Circle: 30% and CHQ: 30%.

***Membership and Tele Pensioner Campaign.***

The Tirupati AIC had taken an important decision for increasing membership and Tele Pensioner Campaign, but in most of the circles it is yet to be implemented. All such circles should immediately initiate suitable action to conduct the campaign without fail and send the report to CHQ.

***NCCPA Secretariat Meeting held on 27-06-2016.***

The National Secretariat Meeting of the NCCPA was held at AIRF office, New Delhi on 27-06-2016. The meeting was held in the wake of the proposed indefinite strike by the central government employees from 11-07-2016 against the negative approach of the government on modifications sought for the retrograde 7th Pay Commission recommendations. The meeting was presided over by Com. Shiv Gopal Mishra, Chairman, NCCPA and Convener, NJCA. The meeting decided to extend full support to the strike and hold countrywide Dharna by pensioners in solidarity of the strike. The meeting also decided to organize a National Convention of workers and pensioners at New Delhi in October, 2016. Com. V.A.N. Namboodiri, Advisor and Com. K. G. Jayaraj, General Secretary, represented AIBDPA in the meeting.

***Strike deferred.***

The Central Government was adamant and did not want a discussion with the NJCA on the genuine issues and declared its decision on the recommendations of the pay commission unilaterally. However when NJCA went all out for the proposed strike, the government was compelled to change its stand and a ministerial committee headed by the Home Minister discussed the issues with the NJCA. It was assured by the ministerial Committee that a special committee will be entrusted to consider the important issues and give its report within 4 months. Therefore the strike was deferred by the NJCA.

***NCCPA Dharna on 11-07-2016.***

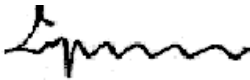
Though the strike was deferred, NCCPA had decided to hold the Dharna on 11-07-2016 in the event of no concrete decision on implementation of option 1 for pensioners, ensuring pension parity to a certain extent. AIBDPA took the decision seriously to implement and accordingly directed all the circle units to hold the Dharna along with other pensioners' organizations like CGPA, AIPRPA. However due to some confusion on the part of other organizations in most of the circles AIBDPA had to conduct alone. Reports are received from Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra, UP, West Bengal, Rajasthan etc. Other circles may send the report early.

***Tasks ahead.***

Comrades, we have achieved three major demands, pension revision for the pre 2007 pensioners, 78.2% IDA fixation and most importantly abolition of 60:40 condition for payment of pensionary benefits. Still we have to achieve many issues like automatic pension revision whenever wages are revised, restoration of quarterly medical allowance, Anomaly in pension, reduction in rent of the quarters, restoration of one extra increment in lieu of Gr.IV promotion to the seniors, extension of broadband concession to DoT retirees which have already been taken up seriously. There are serious challenges in the form of NPS and PFRDA. Then the pension revision on implementation of pay revision to BSNL employees from 01-01-2017 and at least 50% IDA merger to pension prelude to pension revision.

So, Comrades, let us march forward with added vigour and determination. Strengthen the organization at all levels, hold meetings and educate the members to equip them to face the challenges and wage further struggles.

*Yours fraternally*



**K G Jayaraj  
General Secretary**