



ALL INDIA BSNL DOT PENSIONERS ASSOCIATION

[Registered No. S/68836/2010]

Central Head Quarters

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AIBDPA/ MIN-PR/2019

5th August, 2019

To,

**Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad ji,
Hon'ble Minister for Law, IT and Communications,
Government of India,
Sanchar Bhawan, 20, Asoka Road,
New Delhi-110 001**

Respected Sir,

Sub: - **Pension revision of BSNL retirees from 01-01-2017 with 15% fitment , delinking wage Revision in BSNL- request for intervention for early settlement –req**

Hearty congratulations for assuming charge as the Minister for Communications and wish you all success in resolving the core issues in the telecom sector.

We thankfully remember your prompt and effective intervention in settlement of two burning issues of the BSNL retirees, 78.2% IDA fixation and annulment 60:40 condition, after our meeting with your kind self on 09-03-2016 along with Shri. M B Rajesh M P.

Now, another important issue of the BSNL pensioners, pension revision due from 01-01-2017, is pending for settlement. Pension revision to pre 2007 BSNL retirees was done with the maximum fitment of 30% recommended by the 2nd PRC for the executives of CPSUs but not before much persuasions and struggles. The main objection by the DoT in this regard was there was no provision for pension revision in the Rule 37A incorporated in the CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972 to ensure IDA pension to BSNL employees from the consolidated fund of central Government. This was effectively countered with the fact that telecom employees, when absorbed enbloc in BSNL in 2000 were promised better prospects and their counterparts in central government got their pension revised from 01-01-2006 as per 6th CPC recommendations. Finally, order for pension revision with 30% fitment was issued on 15-03-2011 based on cabinet approval. Thus a precedence was created for pension revision of BSNL retirees with the criteria of maximum fitment recommended by the PRC. However, no amendment in this respect was made in the Rule 37A of CCS(Pension) Rules, 1972.

The 3rd PRC has recommended a maximum fitment of 15% for wage revision of the executives in CPSUs from 01-01-2017. But the wage revision in BSNL is being delayed due to the affordability condition stipulated by the 3rd PRC as in the case of earlier PRCs. Initially, DoT had taken a stand

that pension revision would be possible only after wage revision in BSNL. There is no justification in this argument as the pension revision is no way connected to BSNL or the affordability conditions, particularly in the wake of annulment of 60:40 condition vide order dated 20-07-2016. On the contrary, as per Rule 37A, amended from time to time, the entire liability of pension revision of BSNL pensioners is to be borne from the consolidated fund of the central Government.

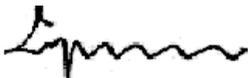
It is worth mentioning here that the united body of the serving executives & non-executives of BSNL, All Unions and Associations of BSNL (AUAB), had also taken up this issue of pension revision from 01-01-2017, delinking wage revision and the then Hon,ble Minister of State for Communications and the Secretary, DoT are reported to have announced in the discussion held on 03-12-2018 that government has decided to delink pension revision form wage revision. Further, in the light of subsequent discussions had with the top officers of DoT, the AUAB has given it's concrete proposals to the Secretary, DoT ,for pension revision with 15% fitment, delinking wage revision vide letter No. UA/2019/68 dated 31-01-2019.

The DoT, thereafter, has referred the issue to the Department of Pension & Pensioners Welfare who took a positive stand and asked DoT to submit concrete proposals for the same. Unfortunately, the DoT did take much time to give the reply that too far from what was sought by the DOP&PW. In this regard also the AUAB has written to the Secretary, DoT vide No.UA/2019/89 dated 21-05-2019 for submitting a comprehensive proposal for pension revision, delinking the wage revision but of no avail.

It is in this background that we are compelled to approach your good self for kind intervention so that the issue is settled amicably without further delay.

Awaiting your early benevolent action and

Thanking you,
Yours sincerely,



K G Jayaraj
General Secretary.