



ALL INDIA BSNL DOT PENSIONERS ASSOCIATION

[Registered No. S/68836/2010]

Central Head Quarters

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AIBDPA/ DOT-BSNL/MH/2020

3rd August, 2020

To,

(1) **Shri Anshu Prakash,**
Secretary,
Department of Telecommunications,
Sanchar Bhawan, 20, Asoka Road,
New Delhi-110001

(2) **Shri P.K. Purwar,**
CMD, BSNL
Bharat Sanchar Bhawan,
Janpath,
New Delhi – 110 001

Sir,

Sub: - **Denial of Ex-gratia and retirement benefits to 199 VRS retirees of Maharashtra belonging to ST community-early settlement sought- req.**

1. We are constrained to bring to your kind notice that 199 VRS retirees in Maharashtra belonging to ST community, after accepting their option to avail VRS, are denied the Ex-Gratia and other retirement benefits even after 8 months due to the alleged non-confirmation of caste certificate.
2. It is reported that these VRS retirees are asked to get their caste certificate verified and genuineness proved for settling the issue. This is nothing but gross injustice meted out to these VRS retirees and clear violation of the procedure laid down by DOPT. According to the procedure, it is the responsibility of the recruitment authorities to get the caste of employees verified from the competent authority before they are confirmed in the respective post. Here, the employees are confirmed, promotions given and allowed to retire on VRS, having been fulfilled all conditions of BSNL VRS-2019 and now asking them to prove the genuineness of their caste.? The concerned BSNL authorities seemed to be in Kumbhakarna slumber during these 25 to 30 years and only these erred authorities are to be held responsible. There is no rationale or justification in making these VRS retirees scapegoats for serious lapse on the part of the respective recruitment authorities.
3. Your Kind attention is drawn to the notification issued by BSNL CO for VRS-2019 vide No. 1-15/2019-PAT(BSNL) dated 04-11-2019, Annexure-1 -7 (ii) which states;
“The VRS option of employee(s) facing Departmental/ Judicial proceedings shall be accepted and Earned Leave Encashment, Transfer Grant, GPF/ CPF and pension will be released provisionally as per Rule 69 of CCS Pension Rules, 1972.
Provided that the payment of Ex-gratia and Gratuity shall be released only on the conclusion of and based on the outcome of vigilance/ disciplinary proceedings. “
In this case, all these 199 VRS retirees are free from any Departmental / Judicial proceedings. Still, they are not paid any of the benefits, other than provisional pension, entitled to VRS retirees facing Departmental/ Judicial proceedings. So, it is very clear that natural justice is denied to these 199 VRS retirees, in violation of the conditions of BSNL VRS-2019.
4. In the past, many of the similarly placed employees of ST category, have retired on superannuation and are drawing pension and other retirement benefits without any impediments.

5. There is absolutely no justification in denying the retirement benefits to the 199 VRS retirees indefinitely as no disciplinary proceedings can be initiated, even when it is proved in certain cases that the caste certificate produced are fake, as per Rule 9 of CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972 which states;

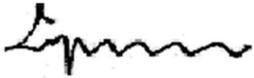
“Departmental proceedings cannot be instituted against retired employees in respect of any event that took place more than four years before the date of institution of proceedings”.

6. In view of the foregoing, it is requested that the issue be settled as a onetime measure and all retirement benefits and Ex-gratia be released to the 199 VRS retirees at the earliest.

Awaiting positive necessary action and

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,



K G Jayaraj
General Secretary.

Copy to: (1) Shri P.K. Sinha, Member (Finance), DoT, Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi-110001
(2) Shri Aravind Vadnerkar, Director(HR), BSNL, Bharat Sanchar Bhawan, Janpath, New Delhi-110001