

ALL INDIA BSNL DOT PENSIONERS ASSOCIATION

[Registered No. S/68836/2010]

Central Head Quarters

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General Secretary: **K.G. Jayaraj** +91-9447455633, +91-9946715983 Advisor : V.A.N. Namboodiri Patron : P.V. Chandrasekharan Preside: at: A.K. Bhattacharjee

AIBDPA/DOT-BSNL/MH/2020

9th November, 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 pension and pensionary benefits to VRS-2019 retirees belonging to ST category of Maharashtrasettlement requested in accordance with the directive issued by Special Secretary, Ministry of Finance based on the report of Parliamentary Committee on the welfare of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe – reg.
- Ref: (1) This Association letter No.AIBDPA/DOT-BSNL/MH/2020 dated 03-08-2020
 - (2) This Association letter No. AIBDPA/DOT-BSNL/MH/2020 dated 21-08-2020
 - (3) This Association letter No. AIBDPA/ DOT-BSNL/MH/2020 dated 05-10-2020
 - (4) Special Secretary, Ministry of Finance F No.30013/27/2020-Ad IV A dated 16-10-2020.

We take this opportunity to request your good self to kindly consider the above referred to issue based on the following submission.

As you are aware, the pension and pensionary benefits of VRS-2019 retirees belonging to ST category of Maharashtra are withheld for non-confirmation of caste certificates. We have already pointed out vide our letters referred (1), (2) and (3) that the caste certificates were to be verified/confirmed by the appointing authority at the time of entry in the department as per clear instructions issued from time to time by DoPT. Unfortunately, the VRS retirees belonging to the ST category of Maharashtra continue to be harassed and intimidated by withholding their pension and pensionary benefits without any valid reason. Even the provisional pension is not being paid regularly and in time, putting these retired officials into untold miseries.

In this connection, we are enclosing herewith the copy of a letter issued by Special Secretary, Ministry of Finance referred (4) above. It is worth mentioning here that the contents of letter based on the report of Parliamentary Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe significantly vindicates the submission made by this Association in our letters referred above. The relevant portion of the letter issued by Special Secretary is reproduced hereunder for ready reference please;

" 2. The Committee during the deliberations took note of the fact that pensionary benefits are not being paid to ST Officers who have served the department for more than 30 years. The Committee took note of the fact that in spite of clear cut instructions issued by the DoPT verification of caste certificates was not completed at the time of entry and such verification has prolonged for 30 long years in several such cases. Taking note of the plight of the families of such officers, the Committee decided that all such cases where full pensionary benefits have not been disbursed to the retired officers may be taken up on priority and the disbursal of pensionary benefits should be completed by 23-11-2020. The Committee also observed that non-compliance of the directions, it would be constrained to take serious view in subsequent meeting. "

It is pertinent to point out that the above directive is very much applicable in the case of VRS retirees belonging to ST category of Maharashtra and request you to kindly settle the issue as a onetime measure at the earliest.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

K G Jayaraj General Secretary

Encl: as above.

Copy to: (1) Shri P K Sinha, Member (Finance), Department of Telecommunications, Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.

(2) Shri Arvind Vadnerkar, Director (HR), BSNL, Bharat Sanchar Bhawan, Janpath, New Delhi-110001.