



ALL INDIA BSNL DOT PENSIONERS ASSOCIATION

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Central Head Quarters

Dada Ghosh Bhawan, 2151/1, New Patel Nagar, New Delhi - 110 008

E-mail : mail.aibdpa@gmail.com, Website : www.aibdpa.com

General Secretary:

K.G. Jayaraj

+91-9447455633, +91-9946715983

Advisor : V.A.N. Nambodiri

Patron : P.V. Chandrasekharan

President: A.K. Bhattacharjee

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PRESS STATEMENT.

All India BSNL DOT Pensioners, Association is all set to launch a two phased struggle against the negative and inhuman approach of the central government and the BSNL management as well.

The government has turned down the demand of pension revision due from 01-01-2017 without any justification. AIBDPA has rightly demanded to revise the pension of the absorbed BSNL retirees with 15% fitment, recommended by the 3rd PRC from 01-01-2017, delinking wage revision. Last pension revision was implemented from 01-01-2007 with the 30% fitment recommended by the 2nd PRC. But the central government is denying the pension revision on the plea that pension revision is possible only after wage revision in BSNL. However, the fact is that full liability of payment of pension and pensionary benefits of absorbed BSNL retirees lies with the central government as per the pension rules amended from time to times and it has nothing to do with the financial crisis of BSNL.

The government talk about the senior citizens in high regards but unfortunately it happens to be just the opposite in practical. The government under the cover of Covid-19 pandemic chose to freeze the Dearness Allowance of pensioners from 01-01-2020 to 30-06-2020. The IDA installments due from 01-10-2020 and 01-01-2021 are not paid to absorbed BSNL Pensioners even though freezing of IDA to CPSEs is not applicable to pensioners.

BSNL management is denying the medical benefits to BSNL pensioners for the last 3 years. After much pressure through representations to the Minister for Communications and Prime Minister and several struggles, medical bills up to 31-03-2019 only is cleared and even the curtailed medical allowance since 2018 is not paid. No pension revision, no IDA and the management is least concerned about the hardships and distress of the hapless pensioners, including those suffering from serious diseases like cancer, kidney and heart ailments.

78,569 BSNL employees had retired on VRS on 31-01-2020 and 8% of balance Ex-gratia is yet to be paid which was to be completed before 30-06-2020. The authorities are resorting to a negative stand in resolving the arbitrary reduction in the last pay of these retirees and disputed caste certificates based on approved norms.

The first phase is a CALL ATTENTION DAY on 26-02-2021 and the pensioners of all the units of the organization throughout the country will hold demonstration and send emails to the Minister of Communications, Secretary, Department of Telecommunications and CMD, BSNL demanding settlement of the above important and long pending issues.

MASS DHARNA on 16-03-2021 will be conducted at maximum centers in the country as the second phase of agitation.

K G Jayaraj
General Secretary