



# ALL INDIA BSNL DOT PENSIONERS ASSOCIATION

[Registered No. S/68836/2010]

## Central Head Quarters

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AIBDPA/ DOP&PW/MH/2022

18<sup>th</sup> January,2022

To,

**Shri V Srinivas**  
**Secretary (Pension)**  
**Department of Pension and Pensioners Welfare,**  
**Lok Nayak Bhawan,**  
**New Delhi – 110 003**

Sir,

Sub: - **Denial of pension and pensionary benefits to 387 VRS-2019 retirees belonging to ST category of BSNL Maharashtra Circle- urgent intervention requested- req.**

Ref: - **OM No. 38/09(02)/2020-P & PW (A)(6721) dated 30-11-2021 of Department of Pension and Pensioners Welfare.**

We wish to bring to your kind notice the issue under reference for urgent intervention and early settlement on the basis of the OM issued by your esteemed department, referred to above.

This Association has been pursuing the issue continuously with the CMD BSNL and Secretary, DoT considering the genuineness of the issue and the miseries meted out to the affected pensioners belonging to ST category and their families.

A brief history of the issue is as follows;

78,569 BSNL employees were retired under BSNL VRS-2019 with effect from 31-01-2020. However, the retirement benefits of 387 VRS retirees of Maharashtra belonging to ST category are illegally withheld by the BSNL management for the last two years on account of non- revalidation of their caste certificate.

We had pointed out the following most relevant factors to CMD BSNL and Secretary DoT through our letters dated 03-08-2020, 21-08-2020, 05-10-2020, 09-11-2020 and 15-01-2021 for the settlement of the issue;

1. The affected VRS retirees were granted VRS-2019 having been fulfilled all the conditions of the VRS - 2019.
2. They have availed the VRS for urgent need of money for the marriage of daughters, construction of house, treatment of serious ailments like kidney transplantation, heart bypass surgery and repayment of huge loans etc as the case may be. So, non-payment of the retirement benefits has virtually defeated the very purpose of availing VRS.
3. Asking the VRS retirees to revalidate the caste certificate after retirement is against the law.
4. We had brought to the notice of both CMD BSNL and Secretary DoT the directives of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe to settle such issues contained in the OM No.57/1/1/SCTC/2019 dated 24-12-2020.

We also wrote to CMD BSNL and Secretary DoT on 14-12-2021 after Department of Pension & Pensioners Welfare issued the OM dated 30-11-2021 The OM very clearly states that " The CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972 or instructions/ guidelines issued by this Department, however, do not provide for withholding of the retirement benefits under any other circumstances, including on account of pending verification of caste status of the employee".

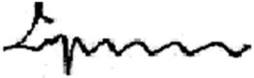
Department of Telecommunications vide OM No.36-03/2019-Pen (T) dated 30-12-2021 has circulated the DOP&PW OM dated 30-11-2021 to all the departments including BSNL for implementation and has sought quarterly report.

But Sir, we apprehend from our experience that the CMD, BSNL may not implement the OM in respect of the 387 VRS retirees of Maharashtra belonging to ST as he has taken a adamant, rather arrogant stand against payment of retirement benefits unless and until the affected retirees get their caste certificate revalidated.

Hence, we request your kind intervention for implementation of the OM in letter and spirit in respect of the 387 retirees of Maharashtra belonging to ST category and save them from utter distress and mental agony.

With kind regards,

*Yours sincerely,*



**K G Jayaraj**  
**General Secretary.**

Copy to: (1) Shri K. Rajaraman, Secretary, Department of Telecommunications, Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.  
(2) Shri P.K. Purwar, CMD, BSNL, Bharat Sanchar Bhawan, Janpath, New Delhi-110001.  
(3) Ms. Roshni Sohni, DDG(Estt), Department of Telecommunications, Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi-110001  
(4) Shri Ruchir Mittal, Director, Department of Pension & Pensioners Welfare, Lok Nayak Bhawan, New Delhi-03