

Sanchar Nigam Pensioners' Welfare Association

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SNPWA/CHQ/ CMD/01/22

Dated10/02/2022

To
Sh. P. K. Purwar Ji
CMD BSNL,
BSNL Bhawan, New Delhi

Sub: Request to direct the concerned officers to kindly initiate immediate expeditious follow up action for implementation of the decisions taken in the meeting on 8th Feb.,22.. Respected Sir

While expressing our deep sense of gratitude to your good self for taking on spot decisions on various issues, in the meeting that we have had with you in a very congenial atmosphere, we are quite confident that very swift action to implement the decisions would be taken by the concerned officers would be initiated. We are hereunder very briefly recapitulating the issues discussed and the decisions taken thereupon.

1. Opening window for migration from BSNL MRS to CGHS by way of direct payment by BSNL to CGHS as a onetime measure

As categorically assured by your good self and the spontaneous instructions issued to Director (HR) to initiate immediate action within a day or two to open a window for direct payment by BSNL to CGHS to facilitate and motivate existing BSNL MRS card holders to migrate to CGHS, we shall be thankful to you to personally monitor implementation of this decision that will, besides providing an opportunity for migration to CGHS, considerably reduce the financial burden on BSNL. Since the window, as decided by you, will remain open only till 31st March, 22, an earliest action in this regard for opening the window and issuing necessary instructions without any further loss of time is kindly solicited. This sir needs your very personal close monitoring.

2. Relaxation of existing VRS conditions to enable spouses of VRS optees

payment of both gratuity and pension commutation in the event of the unfortunate death of a VRS optee before completion of six years or before 2025.

Sir, on this highly compassionate and humanitarian issue, we were highly delighted to find your very positive and optimistic response. The very fact that you even assured us that you will even plead with concerned officers in DOT at the highest level to get terms and conditions of VRS 2019 scheme amended by the Cabinet, if necessity of that is felt by DOT, has left us speechless with no words to express our deepest sense of gratitude on this highly compassionate issue. We are confident, sir, that appropriate proposal in this regard will be immediately finalized by BSNL Management and further pursued with DOT to get the conditions relaxed to enable the spouses of VRS optees to avail of both gratuity and pension commutation. In fact, sir, the mechanism that you have already in mind to enable spouses/nominees of VRS optees to get pension commutation speaks volumes about your compassion and very high level of concern towards VRS optees.

3. Notices u/s 143(1) and 154 issued by IT authorities on tax on leave earned during DOT service is fully exempt from income and orders issued in this regard have also been issued by BSNL CO vide Order No: 1001-04/2011-12/Taxation/BSNL/LE/176 dated 04/05/2012. This has further been upheld by the Income tax Tribunal Mumbai in the case of MTNL employees/retirees vide Hon'ble ITAT Mumbai Order No: ITA No.3261/Mum/2018 dated 05.02.2019. We are extremely thankful to Respected Director (finance)/BSNL for her painstaking efforts in this regard by pursuing this issue with the concerned authorities in IT and her reiteration that she will continue to pursue this issue further. Therefore, as promised in the meeting, kindly take up the issue with the concerned IT authorities to ensure that the employees/ retirees get their due and highly legitimate relief, as per extant orders on the issue, and the harassment that has been let loose by IT authorities in some pockets, particularly AP, KTK, Kerala etc is forthwith stopped.

4. Withholding terminal benefits to ST retirees of MH Circle.

We are very confident that, as per concrete assurance given by you, this issue, in close consultation with very senior officers in DOT, would be addressed and resolved in its totality at the earliest, preferably in a time period of 30 days, as assured by you. Beyond this, sir, having fullest confidence in you with regard to upholding and implementing the orders of highest authority in the Govt. and the concerned nodal ministry, we don't deem it appropriate and discreet to say anything further on this issue at this stage, keeping in view your concrete commitment that you will make expeditious and very serious efforts to resolve this issue holistically. Our humble and dispassionate request on this issue is to completely put on hold the action of charge sheeting/initiation of disciplinary proceedings till a conclusive and final view emerges on this issue, with your kind intervention.

5. Payment of pending medical bills with and without vouchers

On this issue too, as assured by your good self as well as Respected Director (finance) also, granting reasonable financial relief to pensioners for clearing their backlog of medical reimbursements, keeping in view the financial health of the Company, would be considered by March/April 22, may pl be complied with to offset huge financial burden that pensioners have already incurred for their medical treatments while serving in BSNL and after their retirement also.

Before concluding sir, it would be in proper fitness of things to express our sincere thanks and gratitude to you and Director (Finance) for giving us an opportunity to discuss issues of pensioners of BSNL who have contributed in a very significant manner towards growth of this pristine Company and whose commitment towards ensuring continued and uninterrupted growth of this great and prestigious National Telecom Carrier of the Nation is not going to get diluted in any manner. Holding of such meetings periodically to exchange views will surely go a long way towards reinforcing confidence of the pensioners that BSNL Management will continue to keep resolution of their issues in mind and thus never give them even remotely a feeling that they were not part of the great strides that Company has made in the past, and that is bound to make in the days to come under your towering stewardship. Finally, sir, we don't have even an iota of doubt about implementation of the aforesaid issues within the agreed timeframe.

Kind regards,

Sincerely Yours,

G.L Jogi

- 1.Sh. Arvind Vardnekar, Dir HR for information and appropriate necessary action
- 2. Smt. Yojana Das for information and necessary action. We are extremely thankful to you, Respected Madam, for your very positive and proactive response.
- 3. Sh. Saurab Tyagi Ji,Sr GM (Estt.). Sir, we highly value and appreciate your kind gesture on all issues of retirees.