



Sanchar Nigam Pensioners' Welfare Association

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Reg.No:SOCIETY/WEST/2021/8902564

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SNPWA/CHQ/Secy DOT/8/21

Dated 3rd Dec.,21.

To
Respected Sh. K. Rajaraman,
Chairman DCC & Secy/Telecom,
Sanchar Bhawa, New Delhi.

Sub; Humble and dispassionate request to end unwarranted, intense and untold suffering of the pensioners of BSNL/MTNL by addressing their legitimate and highly just issue of pension revision which has been and continues to be inordinately and purposefully delayed on non-existent and extraneous grounds. Benign immediate personal intervention solicited to end the continuing agony and trauma, despite clear cut and oft repeated instructions from Hon'ble PM's office that legitimate grievances of senior citizens need to be addressed on highest priority by the bureaucracy, that pensioners are being forced to undergo for more than four years by denying them their legitimate right of pension revision on untenable, fabricated, baseless and flimsy grounds and thus traumatizing them further.

Blatant and flagrant violation of the concrete commitments made by the Govt., in terms of statutory rules contained in the provisions of Rule 37(A) by suitably amending Rule 37, at the time of their absorption in the year 2000 in BSNL/MTNL, that BSNL/MTNL pensioners would be treated fully at par with the Central Govt. Employees as far as their pension, pension revision and other post retirement benefits are concerned.

Respected Sir,

We are constrained to encroach upon your invaluable time to seek justice that has been blatantly denied to us in total disregard and contravention of the decision of the Union Cabinet taken in year 2000 at the time of our absorption from DOT to BSNL/MTNL.

Recapitulating briefly the decision of the Union Cabinet taken in the year 2000 which unambiguously and aptly envisages that pension and post retirement benefits of BSNL/MTNL absorbed from DOT would be governed by 1972 CCS pension and that absorbed employees would be akin to the Central Govt. Employees in every manner. Based on this decision of the Union Cabinet, and keeping in view the fact that Rule 37 was appropriately amended to Rule 37 A so as to extend benefits available to Central Govt. Pensioners also to those getting absorbed

in BSNL/MTNL from DOT, erstwhile employees of DOT, barring ITS, who blatantly and in a highly undisciplined manner, not only breached the decisions of the Govt. to absorb them in BSNL/MTNL, at least three to four times, but also dragged the Govt. to various Courts, challenging its decision simply to safeguard their vested interests of continuing to remain in the Govt. jobs, least bothered about growth and viability of prestigious National Telecom Carriers, BSNL/MTNL, carved out by the Govt., took conscious decision of joining BSNL/MTNL, motivated and prompted to take absorption in BSNL/MTNL primarily to fully uphold and honor, and not contemptuously disregard and dishonor, as others in highest echelons of the policy making did, the decision of the Govt. to provide services to their fellow Countrymen through service providers of the Govt., **of course keeping fully in consideration concrete and irrefutable decision of the Govt. to treat them fully at par with Central Govt. employees in all respects, including, particularly their pension and other post retirement benefits.**

Respected Sir, the paradox of the issue is that those, who blatantly and repeatedly, and in utter disregard defied the decisions of the Govt. to absorb them in BSNL/MTNL, continue to be at the helm of affairs of crucial policy making, enjoying all the benefits of the Govt., including 7th CPC and everything else, in both BSNL/MTNL, and significantly in DOT, have succeeded in building a false, unfounded, fabricated and misleading narrative of linking pension revision to wage revision. Sir, it would not at all be an exaggeration to mention that, while fully safeguarding their jobs in all respects by continuing to be in the Govt. service, they are presiding over to decide our crucial issue of pension revision and have largely succeeded in their ulterior designs of sabotaging and defeating resolution of this legitimate crucial issue so far. Their total disinclination and unwillingness to decide the issue has led to a miserable situation where pensioners of BSNL/MTNL are languishing for the last more than four years to get their legitimate issue of pension revision addressed. They have so far succeeded in their game plan of defeating our legitimate issue of pension revision on completely frivolous, untenable and non-existent grounds. And unfortunately, they were not held accountable and taken to task by those at the highest level of decision making in DOT, particularly your immediate predecessor, unlike your ex predecessors who scuttled their nefarious designs, time and again, because of their profound concern, timely and proactive intervention to fully safeguard the terms and conditions of our absorption in BSNL/MTNL, particularly those relating to our pension and other post retirement benefits.

Elaborating a little further, Sir, one of your ex predecessors, Garg Sir, Ex Telecom/ Secy, in order to full safeguard and further fortify our pension got Rule 37(A) amended by getting a deadly provision of 60:40 contained in the Rule 37(A) abrogated, despite very stiff and unrelenting resistance from well identified officers down the level in DOT against bringing about such an amendment. He simply, out of his sheer concern to further strengthen the provisions of Rule 37(A), got the amendment approved from the Union Cabinet, completely overlooking and ignoring false narrative that was sought to be built up at that time too also against such an amendment by vested interests down the level in the policy making.

Respected sir, in what way is wage revision of BSNL/MTNL linked to pension revision of BSNL/MTNL? The reason ostensibly being advanced is that it would lead to anomaly in pension between those who retired prior to 1.1.2017 and those who will retire after 1.1.2017. True, but is anomaly an insoluble issue? Thousands and thousands of anomalies, relating to pay/pension, that have cropped up over the decades have been reasonably addressed and will surely be addressed in future too. D. O. P & PW, has quite candidly opined, when the issue was referred to it by DOT, about three years before, that DOT should work out an appropriate mechanism for pension revision and send the proposal to it for its consideration and approval. Keeping in view all the relevant facts mentioned by DOT, in its proposal, DOP & PW never suggested that the issue cannot be resolved, but, in sharp contrast, clearly conveyed to DOT to work out an appropriate mechanism for pension revision. At no point of time did DOP&PW even remotely indicate that the issue of pension revision is insoluble or cannot be resolved. Sir, It is sheer unwillingness and complete lack of concern on the part of the officers down the level that pensioners are being forced to languish and suffer miserably. This pitiable condition, sorry to say sir, has been deliberately created by concerned officers out of sheer vengeance.

And sadly enough, Sir, it is happening at a time when the Hon'ble PM of the Country has been time and again emphasizing, reiterating and exhorting upon bureaucracy not to indulge in red tape and not to scuttle resolution of legitimate issues on flimsy grounds, as is being done in the resolution of the instant legitimate and just issue. And unfortunately and painfully enough that is what is precisely happening with regard to the issue of our pension revision, being scuttled on frivolous and concocted grounds by officers down the level, without holding them to account and have their way freely in order to wreck havoc on pensioners.

Respected Sir, it is very high time that Pensioners of BSNL/MTNL, who are being deprived of their highly legitimate right of Pension revision and being made to languish for the last four years, are treated in a just and fair manner by adhering to the concrete assurances made to them by the Govt. at the time of their absorption in the year 2000. **And, sir, resolution of this issue which has been inordinately delayed is only and only possible if it is examined, free from prejudiced, fabricated and baseless opinion built by ITS in DOT, which they are used to do for decades vis-a-vis absorbed employees in BSNL/MTNL, and for that, sir, your very very proactive, inevitable and immediate personal intervention, completely uninfluenced by the false narrative and opinion built down the level over last four years, is the need of the hour to mitigate intense and mounting agony and suffering of pensioners of BSNL/MTNL.**

With kind regards,
Sincerely yours



(G.L.Jogi)
Copy to;

1. Respected Sh. Ashwini Vaishnaw, Hon'ble MOC, for information &n/a pl.

2. Respected Sh T.V.Somanathan, Finance Secretary, for information &n/a pl.
3. Respected Sh. Sanay kumar Singh, Secy, DOP &PW., for n/a pl.
4. Respected Sh. Dilip padhye, M(F)/DOT, for information &n/a pl.
5. Respected Deepak Chaturvedi, M(S)/DOT, for information & n/a pl.
6. Respected Sh. P.K.Purwar, CMD/BSNL, for information pl.
7. Respected Sh. Arvind Vadnerkar, Dir(HR)/BSNL, for information pl.
8. Respected MS Yojana Das, DIR(F)/BSNL, for information pl.
9. Respected MS Roshini Sohni, DDG(E)/DOT, for immediate n/a pl.

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