

07-07-2023

*Message from the General Secretary, SNPWA on Re launching the CHQ Website (snpwachq.com):*

Just over three years ago, the CEC of SNEA held at Bangalore unanimously resolved the need for the formation of a Pensioners' Association to cater to the needs and aspirations of the Comrades, retiring from SNEA and other sources. For years together, we believed that the multiplicity of Pensioners' Unions and Associations will only be counter-productive in so much as the division that inflicts weakness in any organisation. Although many of our stalwarts and great leaders retired in the interim we stuck to our stand because none of us were ambitious or power crazy. But as years passed on, we understood that the issues of pensioners were lagging like never before. And it was opportune that SNEA too, felt so. We knew that the one decision that we took at that time, that would determine the course of our future as pensioners of BSNL / MTNL / DOT. A 'for sale board' had already been stuck on BSNL / MTNL. Huge numbers of working employees were about to be forced out of the Companies they had so proudly and brilliantly served for decades, sparing no sweat or blood. Future stared at us dark and bleak.

One might recollect that it is we, and we alone, who intensely struggled for getting informed choice comprehensively about our basic and legitimate service conditions like pay scales, pay fixation, weightage for past service, both time-bound policy and BSNLMSRR for functional promotion etc. And of course, assured pension under 37-A. It was at one such stage that we had to take the decisive action to form BSNLEA and then the mighty SNEA. When all others wagged their tails to the tune of the masters, we took up the challenge and ensured a more or less safe passage into the new entities. When all others formed Pensioners' Associations at the stroke of the retirement of their leaders, we said 'no'.

But this time we knew it is now or never. Like the one which compelled us to plunge into the formation of SNEA, we were aware that it is once again time to take up the cudgels and stage the fight that was called for at the moment, especially with pension revision practically being denied. Lest, posterity condemns us for our inaction and inertia. In a few months

thousands would coming out as pensioners and it was our duty to protect their rights and privileges, before everything is lost.

That is why our senior leaders were forced to respond to the call of SNEA. SNPWA was born.

We had total faith in the loyalty of our comrades. We knew most of us will never feel at home in any place other than the one, we considered our own home for a long time. Yes, we consider it a great privilege to serve you as humble servants of Sanchar Nigam Pensioners' Welfare Association which will cater to all retirees of BSNL / MTNL / DOT. We welcome everyone to our fold. But we are greatly honoured to have the full support and confidence of the working and retiring members of the SNEA. Our organizing Comrades have swung into full action in all Circles in the country. The huge response all over the country provides great impetus and additional springs to our feet. Our performance thus far on all fronts, I do not wish to utilise this space for enumerating the huge number of issues that we have taken up and solved despite being badly stung by the cruel COVID 19, in most of the interim, have instilled great confidence in the spectrum of BSNL/MTNL/ DOT pensioners not only on the pension revision which has received a great fillip after our entry into the arena. A major milestone has already been achieved by delinking pension revision from wage revision, the greatest roadblock in the issue just like the JTS gate in our promotion process. We know that we have much more to travel. Yes, Comrades, we are agile. We shall not sleep. But fight to the end. On behalf of our deserving members. History is behind us and this time too it will repeat it. Because we will work '**HAND IN HAND, SHOULDER TO SHOULDER**'. We will come together and work for the welfare of our members, at a time when it is most wanted.

*I am extremely happy that today our channel of communication, our SNPWA CHQ website (snpwachq.com) is getting anew.*

Ever Comradely Yours,



G.L. Jogi  
GS, SNPWA CHQ