



Sanchar Nigam Pensioners' Welfare Association

Reg.No: SOCIETY/WEST/2021/8902564

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SNPWA/CHQ/M(F)/2/26 Dated: 22 July 2026

To

Shri Manish Sinha

Member (Finance)

Department of Telecommunications

New Delhi

Subject: Immediate directions to Pr. CCA, Maharashtra for release of illegally withheld pensionary benefits to ST retirees of Maharashtra Circle in contravention of the statutory instructions of DoP&PW and the orders issued by DoT and BSNL

References:

1. DoP&PW O.M. No. 38/09(02)/2020-P&PW(A) dated 30.11.2021.
2. CGMT, Maharashtra Circle letter dated 16.10.2024.
3. DoT Letter No. 40-09/2022-Pen(T) dated 30.01.2025.
4. DoT Letter No. 40-09/2022-Pen(T) dated 09.06.2026.
5. DoT Letter No. 40-09/2022-Pen(T) dated 06.07.2026 withdrawing the above two letters.
6. BSNL Corporate Office letter dated 09.07.2026.
7. CGMT, Maharashtra Circle letter dated 16.07.2026.

Sir,

We seek your kind and urgent intervention in securing justice for a group of retired Scheduled Tribe officials of Maharashtra Circle whose legitimate pensionary and terminal benefits have been withheld for several years in complete and contemptuous disregard of the statutory instructions issued by the Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare (DoP&PW), as well as the directions issued by BSNL Corporate Office and the CGMT, Maharashtra Circle.

From 2021 onwards, the Principal CCA, Maharashtra, withheld the terminal benefits of these retired officials despite the fact that no disciplinary proceedings, judicial proceedings, departmental proceedings or vigilance cases were pending against any of them on the date of retirement. Vigilance Clearance had also been duly issued by the CGMT, Maharashtra Circle,

making them fully eligible for release of all retirement benefits under the DoP&PW O.M. dated 30.11.2021.

The conduct of the Principal CCA became even more questionable when, instead of implementing the explicit instructions issued by the CGMT, Maharashtra Circle on 16.10.2024 for release of terminal benefits in accordance with the statutory instructions of DoP&PW, the matter was unnecessarily referred to DoT for advice, although no such clarification was warranted under the existing rules.

Subsequently, DoT issued its letter dated 30.01.2025, which effectively overrode the statutory instructions of DoP&PW. This order was inconsistent with the governing pension rules and resulted in grave injustice to the affected retirees by prolonging the denial of their lawful retirement benefits.

We are deeply grateful to the present Secretary (Telecommunications), Shri Amit Agrawal Ji, whose objective, unprejudiced and judicious intervention led to the withdrawal of arbitrary and perverse DoT letters dated 30.01.25 and 09.06.2026 through the DoT letter 06.07.26. His timely intervention has restored the primacy of the Statutory Instructions issued by DoP&PW and reaffirmed the fundamental principle that executive instructions cannot override Statutory Provisions. Pragmatic and Judicious intervention of Secy(T) undoubtedly and unquestionably serves as an eye opener for everyone as to what administration of justice means and how significant it is to uphold Statutory Orders of the Government. The explicit essence of the withdrawal of DOT order of 31.1.2025, with benevolent and timely intervention of Secy(T), is that Statutory Orders of the Government are sacrosanct and administrative/ executive instructions cannot override Statutory Orders under any circumstances. That is the message conveyed unquestionably and unequivocally to one and all by the decision of Secy(T)

The withdrawal of the DoT letters has completely removed the very basis on which the retirement benefits of these officials had been withheld. Indeed, even that basis was wholly untenable in view of the statutory provisions and the undisputed fact that every affected retiree had retired with Vigilance Clearance and without any pending disciplinary or judicial proceedings.

It is pertinent to note that BSNL Corporate Office, through its letter dated 09.07.2026, and the CGMT, Maharashtra Circle, through its letter dated 16.07.2026, have already requested the Pr CCA, Maharashtra to release the pending pension, gratuity, commutation of pension and other retirement benefits in accordance with the DoP&PW guidelines. They have also confirmed that all the requisite pension papers relating to the eligible retirees are already available with the PrCCA.

Thus, no legal, procedural or administrative impediment now survives for the release of the withheld pensionary benefits.

In these circumstances, we earnestly request you to kindly issue immediate directions to the Controller General of Communication Accounts to ensure that the Principal CCA, Maharashtra releases, without any further delay, all pensionary and terminal benefits due to the eligible retired Scheduled Tribe officials.

These retirees are senior citizens who have rendered long and blemish-free service to the Government and have already endured years of avoidable financial hardship because of an action that has now lost every conceivable legal basis. Any further delay would only perpetuate an injustice that has already continued far too long.

We are confident that your timely intervention will ensure faithful implementation of the statutory instructions of DoP&PW, uphold the rule of law, and restore the confidence of the affected retirees in the fairness and credibility of the administrative system.

Yours Sincerely



(G. L. Jogi)
General Secretary

Copy to:

1. Respected Sh Amit Aggarwal, Secy(T), for kind information please
2. Respected Sh Deb Kumar Chakrabarti, Member (Services)/ DOT. He is requested to ensure that the decision of Secy(T) in withdrawal of DOT order of 31. 1. 2025 reaches its logical conclusion by way of immediate payment of Terminal Benefits
3. Respected Madam Vandana Gupta, CGCA. She is requested to monitor immediate implementation of the orders of DOP& PW by Pr CCA/ MH..
4. Shri Robert. J. Ravi, CMD/ BSNL for immediate n/a pl..He is requested to initiate immediate action for payment of Ex Gratia. There is absolutely no ground to withhold Ex gratia in view of withdrawal of DOT orders dated 31.1. 2025
5. Dr S.C Jha, PrCCA/ MH. He is kindly requested to process Payment of Terminal Benefits on highest priority in view of Withdrawal of orders of 31.1.2025 by DOT and orders of BSNL Co and CGM/ MH.
6. Dr Kalyan Sagar, Director (HR)/ BSNL, for immediate n/a please
7. Respected Sh Rajiv Kumar, Director (Finance)/ BSNL for n/a please.