

PENSIONERS' PATRIKA

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पत्रिका

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DON'T TAKE BSNL/MTNL RETIREES FOR A RIDE



EMPHATIC PROTEST BY BSNL/MTNL RETIREES ALL OVER INDIA AGAINST DELAY IN GRANT OF IDR



**Few Photographs of massive Dharna
by CBMPA held on 20-5-2026**

PENSIONERS PATRIKA

BIMONTHLY JOURNAL
OF AIBSNLPWA (CHQ)

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Editorial

WE ARE NOT TIRED

European and Asian economy remained devastated by World War II and India facing a fierce famine, the British Government constituted First Pay Commission with J. Varadachariar, retired judge of Federal Court as Chairman. Mr. Hossain Imam was nominated as a member as Muslim representative and Mr. FrankAnthony MLA as Anglo Indian representative. In addition, four public men and TU leaders viz. N V Gadgil MLA, N M Joshi MLA, Sardar Mangal Singh MLA and Dr J C Chatterjee MLA were also nominated to the said CPC as representatives of the main stake holders, the employees. To cope with price hike the British government had granted some Food Allowance during the War. The CPC regularized it as DA to government staff at diminishing rate expecting that the price level would diminish and stabilize at a level and DA could be eliminated then. It never happened. Second CPC recommended meagre DA of Rs.10 for those drawing pay upto Rs.150 and Rs. 20 for others above pay of Rs.150. Central government employees struck work in July 1960 against the CPC report and subsequent decisions of Government. Then the Government appointed a Das Commission which categorised government staff into four groups and suggested a slab system for DA. Government rejected the report. Then came the 'DA Commission' headed by retired Chief Justice P B Gajendragadkar. In 1966 the Commission submitted its report. **Thus the DA was linked with Cost of Living Index.** Every subsequent CPC, though without any TU representative, confirmed the principle of linkage of DA with price index. It has come to stay.

Leaving apart the history, the Supreme Court of India in unequivocal terms has time and again declared that **DA is a statutory and enforceable right, not a discretionary benefit that a State can withhold. Constitutional duties cannot be evaded on the ground of paucity of funds. Once a legal right has been established, irrespective of whether it pertains to salary, pension, gratuity or other statutory benefits, it is not within the realm of permissible actions for the State to refuse payment of the same on account of financial inability/ paucity of funds. When it comes to employees' dues, this proposition would be extremely dangerous and stifling since the amounts received thereby are not hand-outs or acts of charity but are earned compensation/consideration for services given. Denial of such consideration would have a direct impact on the right to life and livelihood enshrined in Article 21 of the Constitution.**

The present government tried to link payment of our IDA with affordability forcing the workers and pensioners suffer for inefficiency of the management. The nefarious attack has been effectively defeated by united will of BSNL and MTNL pensioners. But, none should remain complacent as if the problem is solved. The attack may reappear any time in new form. Eternal vigilance is the need of the hour.

A strong message should go to the rulers that we are retired but not tired.



FIGHT FOR DEARNESS RELIEF

It was the timely initiative of CBMPA and the unprecedented participation of pensioners that compelled the Government to retreat from its anti-pensioner decision. This victory belongs to every pensioner who responded to the call of struggle and to every constituent association that strengthened the united movement.

Congratulations and greetings to all constituent associations and their members for this notable victory.

VALIDATION CASE

Writ Petition No. 1057/2025 filed by various Central Govt. Pensioners' organisations challenging the constitutional validity of the Validation Act relating to pension and retirement benefits was listed before Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on 12 May 2026. The matter was not taken up for hearing on the day and was posted to 19 May 2026. On 19-5-2026, the case was adjourned to 25th August 2026.

PENSION REVISION CASE

The appeal petition filed by government against CAT verdict in our favour was taken up by Delhi High Court with short adjournments even though the Government pleader tried to get it adjourned again and again. Finally on 21st May 2026 the arguments took place. The Hon'ble High Court reserved the judgement to be pronounced after the summer vacation. Court directed all parties to submit written Notes, confining to 5 pages. All the parties have since submitted their written Notes without fail. We are anxiously waiting for the decision of the High Court.

OUR PETITION IN LPD CASE

As noted elsewhere in this journal, we have approached the Supreme Court to establish the right of associations to espouse common grievances of members before the Courts of Law. The SLP was taken up on 25-5-2026 and adjourned to 13th July 2026.

8th CPC

The 8th CPC is visiting some cities now and giving interviews. At the same time the CPC has asked all stake holders, including individual pensioners, to submit short memorandum, if they desire. On getting the information our CHQ has issued following instructions to all units:

The Eighth Central Pay Commission has extended the last date for submission of Memoranda up to 15.06.2026, which is the final extension. All members are requested to take advantage of this opportunity and submit their memoranda to the Commission in their individual capacity through the Commission's website: <https://8cpc.gov.in>. While submitting the memoranda, members may present their issues as DoT Pensioners, keeping in view the guidelines issued by the Commission. In addition to submission of memoranda, members and office bearers may also seek appointments to interact personally with the Commission during its visits to different cities. Applicants should first submit their memorandum online and obtain the Unique Memo ID, which is mandatory while seeking an appointment.

COMMUTATION

It is understood that Delhi High Court has given a decision in favour of recovery of commuted portion of pension for 15 years, as it exists.

10-6-2026

V Vara Prasad
General Secretary

UNITED, WE WIN

As per the call of CBMPA, the Nationwide DHARNA organised on 20-05-2026 emerged as a resounding success across the country despite severe heat conditions. This magnificent response vindicates the deep resentment prevailing among BSNL/MTNL pensioners against the inordinate delay in release of increased IDA due from 01-01-2026. Heartiest congratulations and militant greetings to all participating members, leaders, district units and constituent organisations of CBMPA who transformed the call into a determined and united action. Our united struggle has already yielded results. The first phase of agitation through demonstrations held on 16-04-2026 demanding withdrawal of Para 5 achieved success. DPE subsequently issued the April 2026 IDA order without the controversial Para 5 and published the same on its website. This established that linking payment of IDA to the financial status of PSUs was unjustified and unacceptable.

CBMPA consistently maintained that IDA is not a concession but a rightful compensation against increase in the cost of living and has to be released periodically under the established mechanism followed for decades. Any attempt to attach extraneous conditions was unwarranted and misleading.

In the name of complying with the affordability clause contained in Para 5 of the January order, DoT sought inputs regarding the financial position of BSNL/MTNL and other PSUs under its control. The companies reportedly informed that adequate internal resources were available

to meet the liability, including arrears. Subsequently, further procedural requirements were sought. The delay in the process and pace of decision-making is strikingly alarming and disturbing.

Meanwhile, implementation of April 2026 IDA has moved forward and internal action has been initiated for payment through pension authorities. Pensioners have started receiving arrears relating to April and May 2026 along with pension, reflecting a combined increase of 5.1% (3.5% from January and 1.6% from April).

However, the issue of release of increased IDA due from 01-01-2026 still remained unresolved. DoT was compelled to issue orders but release of the IDA arrears was delayed quoting some technical snag in the system.

We must remain vigilant and prepared at every stage to safeguard pensioners' rights. Once again, greetings and congratulations to all leaders of CBMPA, AIBSNLPWA and members who demonstrated unity, determination and collective strength.

**Long Live Pensioners' Unity!
CBMPA Zindabad!**

**V Varaprasad,
Convener, CBMPA**

**General Secretary,
AIBSNLPWA**

21-5-2026

THE IDA, ENTANGLED

A delegation consisting of Com. Anupam Kaul, Dy. GS, AIBSNLPWA, GS-SNPWA and GS-MREWA met officers in BSNL and DoT on 7th May 2026 regarding the long pending issues concerning pensioners. The discussions held with Director (Finance), BSNL Board, DDG (Establishment), DoT and Director (PSU), DoT indicate:

1. BSNL has already obtained internal approval for payment of IDA to serving employees w.e.f. 1.1.2026 and is in the process of obtaining approval from Government nominees and external Directors on priority basis. BSNL has already informed DoT that the financial liability can be met fully from BSNL internal resources without external borrowing.

2. DoT officials have also indicated that orders relating to DR from 1.4.2026 are proposed to be issued simultaneously along with the decision on IDA for the period from 1.1.2026 to 31.3.2026.

3. It has now become evident that DoT has linked payment of IDA/DR to pensioners with the decision regarding IDA payable to serving employees, in the same manner in which Pension Revision was earlier linked with Wage Revision.

4. On the issue of extending the benefit of Notional Increment to VRS retirees, DDG (Estt) informed that DoT Legal Section has decided to challenge the Delhi High Court judgment in the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

SCOVA MEETING

◆ Minutes of 35th SCOVA Meeting held on 10.03.2026, state:

◆ Grant-in-Aid to Pensioners' Associations enhanced from 75,000 to 5,00,000 per annum per association.

◆ 29 new CGHS Wellness Centres sanctioned across India including Warangal, Tirupati, Kollam, Hubli, Mangaluru, Sambalpur etc.

◆ CGHS beneficiaries aged 70 years and above can directly consult specialists in empanelled hospitals without referral.

◆ CGHS empanelment norms relaxed for Tier-II and Tier-III cities. Referral validity increased from 1 month to 3 months and up to 6 consultations.

◆ CGHS considering alternative verification methods besides OTP to avoid inconvenience to family members accompanying pensioners.

◆ DoPPW is simplifying and rewriting Rule 50 relating to Family Pension.

◆ DoPPW is directed uploading of supporting documents on CPENGRAMS and will issue fresh OM for conclusive disposal.

◆ SAMPANN issues: Action remains pending with DoT regarding coordination with Pensioners' Welfare Associations and dedicated service centres/officers.

PENSION REVISION CASE

10, April 2026

A significant and encouraging development has taken place today in our Pension Revision case before the Delhi High Court. The Hon'ble Bench expressed strong displeasure over repeated adjournment requests by the Union of India. Our counsel pointed out that similar grounds were taken earlier and opposed the adjournment. The Bench reprimanded the Junior Counsel of UOI and observed that such reasons are not acceptable. It was clearly stated that no further adjournments will be granted. The matter is posted to 28.04.2026, with a direction that even if the Senior Counsel is unavailable, the Junior Counsel must proceed with arguments.

28 April 2026

The matter was listed as Items 74–76 today before Hon'ble Mr. Justice Hari Shankar and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Om Prakash Shukla. The Counsel for the Union of India commenced arguments at around 3:45 PM and continued till 4:45 PM. During the course of arguments, it was contended by the Government that BSNL pensioners are receiving higher pension than Central Government pensioners, and therefore they are not entitled to the benefits of Pay Commission revisions, which are applicable only to Central Government employees. According to the Government, revision of pension for BSNL pensioners can be considered only based on Pay Revision Committee recommendations. The matter was adjourned to, 4th May 2026.

On 4th May It was re-notified for hearing on 11.05.2026. On 11th it was not taken up and posted for next day.

12 May 2026

Government Counsel completed his arguments opposing the claim for pension revision based on the 7th CPC fitment factor. It was contended that BSNL pensioners are governed by the IDA/PRC framework and not the Central Govt/CDA pay structure, and therefore cannot claim CPC-based benefits. The Government argued that Rule 37-A does not provide for extension of subsequent Pay Commission benefits and that pension revision is limited to the formula applicable at the time of retirement. The Govt lawyer highlighted the financial implications, stating that acceptance of the claim would result in an overall burden of approximately Rs 16,938 crore with an annual recurring expenditure of about Rs 4,807 crore. The Court recorded completion of Government arguments and posted the matter to 14-05-2026 for hearing the pensioners' side.

14 May 2026

The case was listed today but could not be taken up due to paucity of time. Accordingly, the matter has been adjourned to 20/05/2026 and in the supplementary list.

20-5-2026:

Senior lawyers Mr Sanjay Ghose and Mr. Chibbar argued the case very effectively pointing out relevant documents. Case was posted to next day for Government pleader to raise rejoinder.

21-5-2026

Arguments by both Sides are over today. Court directed the parties to submit written submissions within a week. Judgement is expected after summer Vacations.

WE SHALL FIGHT

Kindly refer page 17 of previous issue of this Journal regarding LPD Case.

BSNL staff retired on or after 1-1-2006 got pension at 50% of their Last Pay Drawn, on completion of ten years qualifying service, at par with central govt. staff based on 6th CPC report. DOT staff retired before 1-10-2000 also got the benefit of LPD in the form of 3rd option introduced after 7th CPC. Only those BSNL staff retired between 1-10-2000 and 31-12-2005 did not get the benefit. They got pension on last ten months' average pay and on completion of 33 years' service. Those who retired with less than 33 years of qualifying service got only pro rata pension. There are about 35000 such BSNL retirees, retired with less than 33 years' service. As the government was not prepared to remove this anomaly, we filed a case before the CAT Ernakulum in 2018. On 30-10-2019, CAT judge gave a decision rejecting our prayer, on wrong assumptions, that "we did not opt for benefits of the service rendered under government" and also "we tendered technical resignation from government service".

We had to file an Appeal in High Court of Kerala. Hearing was delayed due to Covid for some time. Case was adjourned again and again. Finally on 7th February 2025, Hon'ble High Court allowed our Appeal, set aside the CAT order and declared that BSNL pensioner retired during the said period is entitled to the benefit of LPD. Same time, the High Court observed that **Associations have no locus standi to espouse such grievances of members.**

DoT approached Supreme Court with a Special Leave Petition. SC took up the SLP on 8-8-2025. Sensing that SC would dismiss the SLP, the Government pleader informed SC that they wanted to file a Review Petition before Kerala High Court. SC then allowed it and dismissed the SLP. On 24th March 2026, Kerala High Court dismissed the Review Petition too.

Till date, the benefit is not granted to Com. P Vadivel, the second Applicant in the original case.

We have filed Contempt of Court case before Kerala High Court on this account. We shall take to the logical end of it.

Simultaneously, our Association has moved in Supreme Court to establish our right and our authority to espouse common grievances of members before Courts of Law. Supreme Court has already admitted a Writ Petition filed by 19 associations, including AIBSNLPWA, against the Validation Act. Many High Courts in India allowed cases filed by Associations/Unions on behalf of members. As such, we are sure that SC will uphold right of Associations to espouse common grievances.

The case is numbered as 26395 of 2026. Supreme Court took up the case on 25th May 2026 but adjourned to be heard on 13-7-2026, after summer vacations.

We shall fight against the negative attitude of Bureaucracy in Telecom. We shall fight for our right.

We demand
NO INCOMETAX
ON VRS BENEFITS

Our GS has sent a detailed letter on 8-6-2026 to the Chairman of Central Board of Direct Taxes with annexures running more than 220 pages. He quoted judgements of many IT Tribunals ordering that the BSNL VRS benefits are not taxable. Hence we demand a general clarification from CBDT.

CHQ Letter dated 8-6-2026

To
The Chairman,
Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)
New Delhi – 110001

Respected Sir,
I would like to bring the following facts for your kind consideration regarding the exemption under Section 10(10B) of the Income-tax Act in respect of compensation received by BSNL employees under the Government-approved BSNL Voluntary Retirement Scheme, (BSNL VRS-2019).

The issue has now been examined by various Benches of the Hon'ble Income Tax Appellate Tribunal across the country. The Chandigarh Bench of the Hon'ble ITAT in Harish Kumar Vs. ITO held that the compensation received by BSNL employees under BSNL VRS-2019 is eligible for exemption under Section 10(10B) of the Incometax Act. The Ahmedabad Bench of the Hon'ble ITAT subsequently followed the said decision in Jayeshkumar Tulsidas Sutaria Vs. ITO and granted identical relief. Thereafter, the Hon'ble ITAT, Pune, in its consolidated order dated 29.04.2026 in ITANos.1117/PUN/2026 to 1449/PUN/2026 and connected matters, disposed of 102 appeals pertaining to Assessment Years

2020-21 and 2021-22. The Hon'ble Tribunal held that compensation received by BSNL employees under BSNL VRS-2019 is in the nature of retrenchment compensation and falls under Section 10(10B) of the Income-tax Act and not under Section 10(10C). The Tribunal directed the assessee to submit revised computations before the jurisdictional Assessing Officers and directed grant of consequential refunds after verification.

While deciding the above batch of appeals, the Revenue specifically contended that BSNL VRS-2019 was only a voluntary retirement scheme and that exemption should be restricted to Section 10(10C). The Revenue also relied upon the definition of retrenchment under the Industrial Disputes Act. After considering these contentions and various judicial precedents, the Hon'ble Tribunal rejected the objections raised by the Revenue and followed the decisions already rendered by the Chandigarh and Ahmedabad Benches.

The Hon'ble ITAT, Pune again considered the same issue in another consolidated order dated 20.05.2026 covering 56 appeals of BSNL retirees. The Revenue reiterated substantially the same arguments. However, the Hon'ble Tribunal observed that the

issue had already been comprehensively considered in the earlier orders and no contrary High Court judgment had been brought on record. Following the earlier decisions, all the 56 appeals were allowed and exemption under Section 10(10B) was granted. Subsequently, the Hon'ble ITAT, Bangalore, by its order dated 29.05.2026, allowed another batch of BSNL VRS appeals and granted exemption under Section 10(10B). The Bangalore Bench also granted relief relating to leave encashment under Section 10(10AA) in the cases before it by following the applicable judicial precedents.

Thus, favourable decisions have now been rendered by the Hon'ble ITAT Chandigarh, Ahmedabad, Pune, Bangalore, Mumbai, Indore and Chennai Benches in more than 263 cases involving BSNL VRS-2019 compensation. In all these cases, the facts are identical, the scheme involved is identical, the legal issue involved is identical and the conclusions reached by the Hon'ble Tribunals are also identical.

However, despite the above consistent judicial view, similarly placed BSNL retirees are being treated differently by various appellate authorities. There are numerous cases where delays ranging from approximately 1400 to 1900 days have been condoned and relief granted. There are also cases where appeals have been disposed of within a few days and favourable orders issued. At the same time, other retirees are being denied relief or compelled to pursue prolonged litigation on the very same issue.

In this connection, the observation made by the Hon'ble ITAT, Pune in its order dated 29.04.2026 assumes great significance. After noting that several appellate authorities had condoned delays and allowed identical claims and that the Department had not

challenged those favourable orders, the Hon'ble Tribunal observed as follows:

“Thus, it is observed that CIT(A)'s have been taking different stand on identical issues. Consistency in judicial decisions is very important.”

The above observation of the Hon'ble ITAT clearly shows that identical issues are being dealt with differently by various appellate authorities and that such inconsistency is causing avoidable hardship to retired BSNL employees. When more than 263 cases involving identical facts have already been decided in favour of BSNL retirees by various Benches of the Hon'ble ITAT and no contrary High Court judgment was brought on record before those Benches, compelling each retiree to pursue separate appellate proceedings serves neither the interests of justice nor efficient tax administration.

Hence, it is respectfully submitted that the fact that “identical issues are being dealt with differently by various appellate authorities” will not yield natural justice. A suitable circular or instruction issued by the CBDT under Section 119 of the Incometax Act would remove the inconsistency, ensure uniform implementation of the law and avoid further unnecessary litigation.

It is therefore requested that the CBDT may kindly issue suitable instructions recognizing the consistent judicial view that compensation received under BSNL VRS-2019 is eligible for exemption under Section 10(10B), permit processing of consequential refund claims of similarly placed retirees and ensure uniform treatment throughout the country. We hope your goodself will consider the matter favourably and take appropriate action at the earliest.

IT WAS A CONSCIOUS DECISION

The session started at 0940 hrs on 15th. Com PSR gave a small brief about the announcement of appointing 7th CPC by the Hon. Prime Minister well in advance for the first time. GS initiated the discussion and informed the house that immediately after the announcement, our team consisting of DG, GS, Muthiyalu, Gunasekaran & Tamilnadu Circle Secretary Ramarao met MoS in PM(O) and in-charge of Pension and Public Grievances Shri V.Narayanasamy at Puducherry on 29/9/13 and handed over a letter to him requesting to include in the 'Terms of Reference to 7th CPC' about the retirement benefits of those PSU pensioners who are covered under CCS Pension Rules 1972 including BSNL pensioners. He read out that letter also. GS advocated that the formula which would be suggested by 7th CPC may be made applicable to us also. He suggested that a small committee may be appointed by the CWC for preparing a memorandum. On this subject, 17 CWC members spoke and all of them agreed to the proposal made by President and GS. Com PSR spoke about his experience for preparing memoranda to 5th CPC and 6th CPC. Com Muthiyalu suggested that we can seek the cooperation from MPs, Central TUs etc.

Finally a unanimous decision was taken that GS

JANUARY-MARCH, 2014

DRAFT MEMORANDUM TO 7th CPC

A draft memorandum to be submitted to 7th CPC on behalf of BSNL pensioners who are covered by CCS Pension Rules (1972), prepared by Com. D.Gopalakrishnan, and K. Muthialu was submitted to the CWC. Com D.G explained the salient features of the draft. Circle Secretaries were given 15 days time to suggest any modification to the draft. After that the draft will be sent to other BSNL pensioners organisations for eliciting their opinion and try to submit a common Memorandum. If it is not possible we will submit on our behalf.

□ CWC of AIBSNLPWA met at Kochi on 15th and 16th November 2013. And, few weeks before, the then Prime Minister had declared that 7th Central Pay Commission would be constituted. CWC considered the matter seriously and constituted a committee consisting of Coms. P S Ramankutty, D Gopalakrishnan, G Natarajan, Chhidu Singh and K Muthiyalu for drafting the memorandum.

□ The CWC met again in April 2014 in Chennai and considered the draft memorandum prepared by Com. DG and Com. Muthiyalu, thoroughly debated upon and approved it. All the subsequent CWC meetings and All India Conferences ratified the above decision.

□ It was a conscious decision for the future.

□ We pursued the matter by meeting top officers of DoT and the Ministers of Communications, during the next 6 years.

□ On 12-12-2019, the Minister Mr. Ravi Sankar Prasad told the Parliament that neither the pay revision in BSNL nor the pension revision of BSNL retirees is possible.

□ Then we took another conscious decision to file the court case. We filed the case in 2020 and got favourable decision by CAT in 2023.

□ Then DoT went to High Court with an appeal.



BEWARE OF THE GAME

“It was observed that BSNL is a human resource heavy organization. Steps may be taken to repatriate all persons on deputation from other departments with BSNL. Further, assessment of all personnel may be carried out with regard to their suitability for the organization and efforts be made to reduce staff.”

— Point 10, Minutes of PM Sector Review Meeting, Telecom, 07.01.2026 | Responsible: DoT | Deadline: **31.10.2026**

Above is the official Minutes of an important meeting held on 7-1-2026, chaired by Prime Minister himself, released by Niti Ayog. The Communications Minister, the Cabinet Secretary, senior NITI Aayog officials and PMO staff attended the meeting. Neither DoT nor the BSNL disclosed the information. These minutes contain 15 action points. Point No. 10 is the one that is important.

BSNL Corporate Office has acted upon it and collected the age profile of staff working in the Company as on 30th April 2026. The data released show that there were 51933 staff working as on 30th April 2026, out of them 28911 are Executives and 23022 are Non Executives.

Age group	No. of Staff
25-29	30
30-39	7693
40-49	19926
50-59	21690
59-60	2594

ABSORBED STAFF

6062 are absorbed Executives and 11651 are absorbed Non Executives. **Total: 17713**, presently serving in BSNL.

DOT was asked to reduce staff in BSNL by 31-10-2026. Hence, BSNL has collected the above Data. If all staff above the age of 50 are sent out under a new VRS, 24284 will be out of BSNL. The DOT employees absorbed in the Company are the seniormost and all the 17713 people will be out by end of the year. Then, only the Direct Recruits will remain with the company. Their Pension Scheme is different, NPS or EPS or UPS.

OUR TRIBUTES

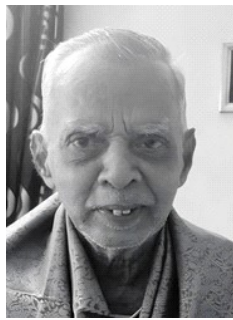
Com. V. V. S. Murty, former AGS of AIBSNLPWA, passed away on 28-05-2026 at Hyderabad at the age of 83 years. He was a staunch and dedicated leader of the NFTE from Krishna District in AP during his entire service period. He rendered valuable service as Assistant General Secretary of AIBSNLPWA during 2012 - 2015.



It was Com. Murty who vehemently proposed that our Association should bring out a comprehensive book on pension and pensionary benefits and publish it in seven Indian languages. He took up the responsibility to get the book printed at Hyderabad and also the responsibility of selling it. He fulfilled his promise successfully. The book titled; **PENSION IS RIGHT**, was compiled by Com. D

Gopalakrishnan and was sold out during the Puri AIC in September 2018.

Com. Murty retired from Vijayawada Telecom as Chief Section Supervisor. He also served as District Secretary of NFTE during the 1980s and played a significant role in strengthening the trade union movement and pensioners' organization. His committed services to both NFTE and AIBSNLPWA are ever memorable and will continue to inspire generations of comrades. Com. VVS was always first to collect information about details of Cost of Living Index every three months through his friend in Labour Bureau, analysing it and inform the increase/decrease in IDA. AIBSNLPWA respectfully salutes Com. V. V. S. Murty for his lifelong dedication, sincerity, and selfless service to employees and pensioners.



Com. S. Sampath Kumar, District President of AIBSNLPWA, Chennai Traffic passed away on 5 June 206 early morning. He will be remembered for his simplicity, resilience, dedication and commitment to the organisation. He was a silent but strong leader of Telegraph Employees in Tamilnadu for many years.



Com. V Swaminathan, our CHQ Vice President, lost his beloved wife Smt. Mangalam on 9th June, 2026 at Thanjavur, Tamilnadu. On behalf of CHQ, Com Arivazhagan participated in the funeral on 10-6-2026.

**V Vara Prasad,
General Secretary, AIBSNLPWA**

SUPREME COURT OF INDIA REAFFIRMS

PENSION

is a constitutional right

PENSION is not a grace

PENSION is deferred wage

On 1st June 2026, The Supreme Court has held that long-serving temporary status casual labourers are entitled to pensionary benefits upon superannuation even in the absence of formal regularisation. The Court observed that employees who had been conferred temporary status and extended benefits akin to temporary Group 'D' employees could not be denied social security and pensionary benefits merely on account of nomenclature or administrative inaction.

The Court was hearing appeals filed by former casual labourers and legal representatives of deceased employees working under the **Department of Posts**, challenging judgments of the Patna High Court which had denied pensionary benefits on the ground that the employees were never formally regularised as Group 'D' employees.

A Division Bench of Justice Sanjay Karol and Justice Augustine George Masih observed: **“A temporary status casual labourer would be entitled to pensionary benefits on superannuation even in the absence of regularisation.”**

The Bench further observed: “...long-serving employees, whether casual or temporary, particularly those who have been conferred a recognised status and extended benefits akin to regular employees, cannot be denied corresponding benefits including social security and pensionary benefits.”

Background

The appellants were either former employees or legal representatives of employees who had worked as casual labourers (Night Guards) in the Department of Posts for several decades. The employees were initially appointed between 1971 and 1981 and continuously served the Department till superannuation.

Following directions issued by the Supreme Court in *Jagrit Mazdoor Union (Regd.) v. Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd.* (1990), the Department of Posts introduced the Casual Labourers (Grant of Temporary Status and Regularisation) Scheme, 1991, to provide improved service conditions and social security measures to casual labourers. Pursuant to the Scheme, the concerned employees were granted temporary status with retrospective effect from 29 November 1989. Thereafter, a circular dated 30 November 1992 provided that casual labourers who completed three years of continuous service under temporary status would be treated at par with temporary Group 'D' employees and would become entitled to benefits admissible to such employees. Although the employees continued to receive benefits akin to Group 'D' employees and served for decades thereafter, they were never formally regularised before retirement. After retirement, claims seeking pensionary and family pension benefits were rejected by the authorities

because formal regularisation was a mandatory prerequisite for pension under the applicable framework. **The CAT allowed the employees' claims** and directed consideration of pensionary benefits, but the Patna High Court subsequently set aside the Tribunal's orders, holding that pension could not be granted in the absence of regularisation. The Supreme Court examined the 1991 Scheme, the departmental circular dated November 30, 1992, and the framework under the Central Civil Services (Temporary Service) Rules, 1965, and the CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972.

The Court observed that the Scheme was conceived as a beneficial framework aimed at progressively integrating casual labourers into the regular service structure by extending service conditions and benefits similar to Group 'D' employees. The Bench noted that the Scheme itself contemplated pay parity, leave benefits, provident fund benefits, medical aid, LTC, bonus and counting of service for pension and terminal benefits. The Court observed: "The Scheme contemplates extension of benefits admissible to temporary Group 'D' employees after completion of the prescribed period of service under temporary status."

The Supreme Court rejected the Government's contention that pensionary benefits were available only after formal regularisation. The Court clarified that Clause 6 of the Scheme, which referred to counting 50% of service after regularisation, did not create pensionary entitlement itself, but merely conferred an additional benefit in cases where regularisation took place. The Bench observed: "The pensionary entitlement of temporary status employees who have completed the prescribed period of service flows independently from the Scheme and the circular dated 30.11.1992."

The Court also distinguished between casual labourers, temporary status casual labourers, temporary Government servants and regular Government servants, while observing that although nomenclature remained unchanged, the nature of benefits extended to temporary status casual labourers became substantially aligned with those available to temporary Government employees.

The Bench observed: "The distinction that remains is one relating to nomenclature, formal status and mode of regularisation but not to the nature of extended benefits."

The Court further held that Rule 10(1-B) of the CCS (Temporary Service) Rules, 1965 specifically recognised entitlement of temporary Government servants to superannuation pension, gratuity and family pension upon completion of ten years' service.

The Supreme Court observed:

"Pension is not a matter of grace dependent upon the financial convenience of the employer, but a deferred wage earned through long years of service."

The Court also held: ***"The emphasis must be on ensuring that the State does not retain such employees in a precarious condition while extracting services identical to those performed by regular employees."***

The Court also reiterated that a pension constitutes a constitutional right and property protected under Article 300A of the Constitution.

[SLP 28802-28804 of 2019]

ORDERS

CHS: EITHER PARENTS or PARENTS - IN - LAW

Min.of Health OM No. S.14025/15/2024-
EHS(8270534)/I/3862000/2026
dated 13-5-2026

1. The undersigned is directed to refer to this Ministry's OMs dated 03.03.1987 and 26.07.2023 (copy enclosed), vide which the facility to choose either parents or parents-in-law as dependent family members for the purpose of availing medical facilities under CGHS was made available to eligible Central Government employees.

2. Attention is also invited to this Ministry's OM No. S.14025/15/2024-EHS dated 28.03.2024 (copy enclosed) whereby the aforesaid facility was extended to beneficiaries covered under Central Services (Medical Attendance) Rules, 1944 [CS (MA) Rules, 1944], at par with CGHS beneficiaries.

3. In continuation of the above, it is hereby reiterated that the aforesaid provisions shall be applicable to all eligible beneficiaries covered under CGHS as well as CS (MA) Rules, 1944, subject to fulfilment of prescribed dependency and other eligibility conditions under the respective rules/scheme.

4. It is further clarified that a male Government employee shall be eligible to exercise a one-time option only for choosing either his parents or parents-in-law as dependent family members for the purpose of availing medical facilities under CGHS/CS (MA) Rules, 1944.

5. Once such option has been exercised in favour of parents, the employee shall not subsequently be permitted to opt for parents-in-law as dependents at a later stage, including in cases arising due to demise of parents or otherwise. Similarly, where option has once been exercised in favour of parents-in-law, the same shall not subsequently be changed in favour of parents.

6. All Ministries/Departments are requested to bring the contents of this OM to the notice of all concerned for strict compliance.

CGHS RATES

CGHS OM No. S.11030/4/2026-
EHS(8385264)/I/3840089/2026 Dt 19-2-2026

The undersigned is directed to refer to the MoHFW vide OM No. 11011/20/2014-CGHS(P)/EHS, dated 23.11.2016, whereby the ceiling limit for settlement of medical reimbursement cases (where no relaxation of rules is involved and entitlement is worked out strictly as per prescribed CGHS rates) was enhanced from Rs. 2.00 lakh to Rs. 5.00 lakh.

2. In this regard, the matter has been re-examined and decided to enhance the present ceiling limit from ₹5.00 lakh to ₹10.00 lakh for settling medical reimbursement cases by the Heads of Departments of Ministries/Departments without consultation of IFD, provided that:

(i) No relaxation of CGHS/CS(MA) Rules is involved, and

(ii) The entitlement is worked out strictly with reference to the prescribed CGHS/CS(MA) rate lists.

3. This has the concurrence of IFD vide CD No. 3131 dated 29.01.2026.

ORDER OF DPE ON IDA

DPE No. No.W-02/0037/2025-DPE(WC)/FTS-14505 Dated:24.04.2026

DOT ORDER ON IDA from 1-1-2026

DoT NO. F.No. 61-1/2026-SU Dt 21-5-2026

The undersigned is directed to convey the revised rates of Industrial Dearness Allowance (IDA) applicable to executives holding Board level and below Board level posts and Non-Unionized Supervisors of Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) following the 1987, 1997, 2007, and 2017 pay scales, effective from 01.04.2026.

2. The quantum of IDA payable from 01.04.2026 at the old system of neutralization @ Rs.2.00 per point shift for increase of (46) points, may be Rs. 92/- and at Average AICPI 9756, DA payable may be Rs. 18,102 to the executives holding Board level post, below Board level post and non-unionized supervisors following IDA pattern in the CPSEs of 1987 pay scales.

3. The rates of Dearness Allowance (DA) payable w.e.f. 01.04.2026 to executives holding Board-level and below Board-level posts, as well as non-unionized supervisors of CPSEs following the 1997, 2007, and 2017 pay scales, shall be 471.2% for the 1997 pay scale, 238.3% for the 2007 pay scale, and 54.1% for the 2017 pay scale.

4. All administrative Ministries/Departments of Government of India are requested to bring the foregoing to the notice of the CPSEs under their administrative control for necessary action at their end.

5. This issues with the approval of the Secretary, Department of Public Enterprises.

The undersigned is directed to refer to the Department of Public Enterprises' OM No.W02/0037/2025-DPE(WC)/FTS-14505 dated 27.02.2026 (copy enclosed), on the subject cited above.

2. In this regard, approval of the Competent Authority is hereby conveyed for the revision of the rate of Industrial Dearness Allowance (IDA) payable to Executives and Non Unionized Supervisors of BSNL, drawing pay in the 2007 pay scale, to 236.7% of basic pay with effect from 01.01.2026.

3. This approval is subject to the condition that there shall be no additional financial implication on the Government of India, and the expenditure on account of the revised IDA shall be met by BSNL from their internal accruals.

(Digitally signed)

Endorsed to CGCA

PENSION ADALATS : guidelines

DoP&PW OM No. No.4/12/2025-P&PW(D)-Part(2)/ E-10488 Dt. 12-5-2026

Recommendations of Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice - reg. The undersigned is directed to refer to Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare's OM dated 23.03.2011 (copy enclosed) regarding the guidelines for the conduct of Pension Adalat and to say that the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on

Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice, in its 161st Report, has noted that the effectiveness of Pension Adalats depends significantly on the extent to which pensioners are made aware of these opportunities in advance and has recommended to reach out to the eligible pensioners, particularly those residing in remote areas or those with limited digital access, so that they may avail this grievance redressal mechanism. It is a time tested model of ensuring 'on the spot' qualitative redressal of pending grievances having almost 75% on the spot redressal rate in the last 12 Pension Adalats that this department has organised in the past. In fact, the balance cases have also been resolved within the next few days of the Adalats through follow-up meetings with concerned stake-holding Ministries/Departments/Organizations.

2. In view of the above, the provisions contained in aforementioned OM dated 23.03.2011 of this Department on the issues concerning Pension Adalat are reiterated. Further, to comply with the above recommendations of the Committee, Ministries/Departments/Organizations should accord priority to undertake widespread and well-coordinated awareness campaigns, sufficiently in advance of organising Pension Adalats, so as to ensure that all pensioners with pending grievances are informed and able to participate. Also, information regarding Pension Adalats should be disseminated through multiple channels, including Pensioners' Welfare Associations, relevant Government offices and Pension Disbursing Authorities viz. Banks, Post offices and Treasuries. Further, digital platforms such as official websites, Pension Portals, SMS alerts, and Social Media should also be employed in this regard.

3. This issues with the approval of Competent Authority. Encl: As above.

OM dated 23-3-2011

The undersigned is directed to state that the Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare, Ministry of Personnel, P.G. & Pensions, is the nodal Department for the formulation of general policy relating to pension and other retirement related benefits of Central Government employees covered under CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972. Besides, it also seeks to promote pensioners welfare and serves as a forum for the redressal of pensioners' grievances.

2. At present, some Ministries/Departments like Defence, Railways and Posts have been conducting Pension Adalats from time to time wherein onthe-spot decisions are taken for a prompt resolution of pensioners' grievances. However, keeping in view the rising spate of pensioners' grievances, the cooperation and involvement of all Ministries/Departments in redressing these grievances through various fora is considered necessary.

3. The DoP&PW has been considering for sometime framing of some sort of guidelines/framework for holding of Pension Adalats. Based on the interaction with Ministries/Departments of Defence, Railways and Posts and the feedback received from Banks with regard to holding of Pension Adalats, this Department has formulated guidelines for holding of Pension Adalats by various Ministries/Departments/ Organisations, including the Pension disbursing Banks. A copy of these guidelines is enclosed herewith for perusal. The Ministries/Departments/ Organisations may like to organise Pension Adalats for pensioners as considered appropriate by them. These guidelines are not mandatory in nature and suitable changes could be effected, wherever required, keeping in view the overall objective of prompt and quick redressal of pensioners' grievances.

DA CANNOT BE DENIED/DELAYED

The High Court of Punjab and Haryana has directed the Punjab government to grant and release all up-to-date pending instalments of dearness allowance (DA) to all its employees and pensioners at the rates paid to the members of the All India Services (IAS/IPS/IFS) officers serving in the state on the Central government pattern by June 30.

The bench of Justice Harpreet Singh Brar also quashed the February 18, 2025, letter issued by the state finance department that mandated segregation of pensioners into three different categories for payment of arrears of revised pension and DA, delaying release to younger pensioners.

The chief secretary has been directed to ensure scrupulous compliance and file a report on July 2. The judgment was passed on April 8.

In the petitions filed on different dates this year by employees and pensioners, they had challenged Punjab's failure to grant DA and dearness relief (DR) instalments in accordance with the 6th Punjab Pay Commission recommendations. Although the government has formally accepted the payment of DA/DR on the "central government pattern."

However, it subsequently delayed these payments, citing financial constraints. They had also challenged the liquidation plan, which staggered the payment of arrears revised pension/family pension (including DR arrears) into tiers based

on the age of pensioners. It was also alleged that while employees and pensioners of Punjab were denied up-to-date DA on the central government pattern, All India Service Officers (IAS/IPS/IFS) were receiving these benefits in full from the same consolidated fund of the state government.

In its 94-page judgment, the court held that when a policy decision is arbitrary, violates fundamental rights, suffers from the vice of irrationality or is contrary to statutory or constitutional provisions, the courts can invoke the power of judicial review to ensure constitutional supremacy and accountability.

"...adoption of the 'central government pattern' by the Government of Punjab necessarily means that the state is aligning its approach for grant of DA with that of the central government....in adopting the central government 'pattern,' the government of Punjab has agreed to mirror the central government's system regarding DA i.e. its rates, formula, timing, and structure. If the government accepts the pattern but ignores the timing, it has effectively rejected the pattern,"

it said while interpreting the term 'central government pattern', which the state government had adopted as a policy decision. The court underlined that once the government has accepted the recommendation of the 6th pay commission, the benefits arising from the said recommendations cannot be denied to the petitioners.

THE NEW COST OF LIVING INDEX AND YOUR DA

A Study

By Shri. Prasad Puranam,

President, Confederation of Central Government

Employees, Karnataka State

Joint Secretary, CCCGPA Karnataka

GS, CGWB Pensioners Association, Karnataka State

Introduction:

The Government of India has revised the Consumer Price Index (CPI) basket based on the Household Consumption Expenditure Survey (HCES) 2023–24. The revised basket reflects significant changes in household spending patterns over the last decade, with greater emphasis on services and modern consumption items. Since Dearness Allowance (DA) and Dearness Relief (DR) are intended to compensate Central Government employees and pensioners for inflation, the revised CPI basket deserves careful examination.

Comparison of CPI Basket Weights:

Category	CPI 2012 (%)	Revised CPI (%)	
Food & Beverages	45.86	36.75	Reduced
Housing, Water, Elec, Fuels	16.91	17.67	Increased
Health	5.89	6.10	Increased
Education services	4.46	3.33	Reduced
Transport	8.59	8.80	Increased
Recreation, Sports, Culture	1.68	3.35	Increased
Clothing, Footwear	6.53	6.38	Small decrease
Pan, Tobacco, Intoxicants	2.38	2.99	Increased
Personal care, Misc services	3.89	4.08	Increased
Restaurants, Accommodation		3.35	New category
Information, Communication		3.33	New category

MAJOR STRUCTURAL CHANGES:

1. Reduced Weight for Food

Food and beverages account for only 36.75% of the revised basket compared with 45.86% under the 2012 series.

2. Increased Importance of Services

The revised basket assigns greater weight to Healthcare, Transport, Housing, Communication, Recreation, & digital services.

As India moves toward a middle-income economy, household expenditure increasingly shifts from basic necessities to services and quality-of-life expenditures.

3. Inclusion of Modern Consumption Items

The basket has expanded from 299 items to 358 items and now includes:

- Online streaming services
- Value-added dairy products
- Digital storage devices
- Modern communication equipment
- New technology products

Many of these items exhibit relatively stable prices compared with food commodities and seasonal agricultural products.

Impact on Dearness Allowance (DA)

DA is intended to compensate employees for increases in the cost of living. Under the revised basket:

- Food inflation carries less weight.
- Sharp increases in food prices may have a smaller impact on overall CPI.
- Consequently, DA revisions may not fully reflect the inflation experienced by families whose expenditure on food remains high.

This issue is particularly relevant for lower-paid employees and pensioners.

Greater Influence of Service Inflation

The revised CPI gives more importance to:

- Housing, Healthcare, Transport, Communication, Recreation services
- When these sectors experience sustained price increases, CPI inflation may remain elevated even if food inflation moderates.

In such circumstances, DA increases could be supported by service-sector inflation.

Gap between Official and Personal Inflation

Many Central Government employees and pensioners spend a higher proportion of their income on:

- Food, Medicines, Healthcare, Essential household items, House rent & Education

Consequently, they may experience a higher rate of inflation than that reflected in the revised CPI.

This could create a growing gap between:

- Official inflation measurements, and
- Actual household expenditure experiences.

Relevance to the 8th Central Pay Commission

The revised CPI basket is likely to become an important issue before the 8th Central Pay Commission.

Employee and pensioner organisations may argue that:

1. The revised CPI does not adequately capture the inflation experienced by government employees and pensioners.
2. DA neutralisation requires re-examination.

3. An employee-specific cost-of-living index should be explored.

4. Future fitment factors should take account of changing expenditure patterns.

5. Healthcare and elderly-care expenditure deserve greater recognition in determining compensation.

Illustrative Example:

Assume:

- Food prices increase by 12%.
- Healthcare & education increase by 5%.
- Housing increases by 4%.

Under the old CPI basket, food inflation would have exerted a stronger influence because food carried a weight of nearly 46%. Under the revised basket, food carries only 36.75% weight. As a result, the overall CPI increase may be lower even though households continue to experience substantial increases in food expenditure. This could potentially result in lower DA increases than would have occurred under the earlier methodology.

Impact on Pensioners:

The same considerations apply to Dearness Relief (DR).

Many pensioners allocate a significant share of their income to:

- Food , Medicines, Medical treatment, Health insurance , Caregiving services

If these expenditures rise faster than overall CPI inflation, pensioners may experience a decline in real purchasing power despite receiving periodic DR increases.

Conclusion:

□ The revised CPI basket reflects India's evolving consumption patterns and provides a more modern representation of household expenditure. However, it also raises important questions regarding the adequacy of DA and DR as mechanisms for protecting the real incomes of government employees and pensioners.

□ Employee federations and pensioners' associations should carefully study the revised methodology and engage with the 8th Central Pay Commission to ensure that future compensation systems adequately reflect the actual cost of living faced by employees and retirees.

□ A detailed examination of the relationship between the revised CPI, DA neutralisation, fitment factors, and pension protection will be essential in the coming years.

Our demand before the 8th CPC :

"The 8th Central Pay Commission should examine the feasibility of creating a separate Cost of Living Index for Central Government employees and pensioners, with enhanced weightage for food, healthcare, housing, education, transportation and essential consumption expenditure. Such an index would provide a more realistic basis for determining DA, DR, pay revision, and pension protection."

This recommendation could strengthen our submission to the 8th CPC. ■

**50 + 69 =
119 Lakh**

- According to a reply in Rajya Sabha on March 10, 2026,
- Total number of Central Govt employees is **50.14 lakh**.
 - Around **49,802 pensioners** covered under the **NPS**
 - And **69 lakh pensioners** are covered by **Old Scheme**

A strange clarification

NOTIONAL INCREMENT IS PAY FOR PENSION; NOT FOR FAMILY PENSION

CHQ Letter dated 15/06/2026 to The Secretary, Department of Personnel & Training, New Delhi.

Subject: Request for reconsideration of DoPT clarification regarding extension of the benefit of notional increment for calculation of family pension.

We invite your kind attention to the clarification conveyed by the Department of Posts vide F. No. 02-07/2026-PAP dated 08.06.2026 (copy enclosed), based on the views of DoPT, stating that the benefit of notional increment shall be reckoned only for the purpose of calculating pension and not for the purpose of calculating family pension.

It further states that “DoPT O.M. dated 20.05.2025 specifically provides that grant of notional increment “shall be reckoned only for the purpose of calculating the pension admissible and not for the purpose of calculation of other pensionary benefits.”

Based on the above, the Department of Posts has concluded that “..the benefit of notional increment may not be extended for the purpose of calculation of family pension.”

It is also submitted that the formula for **family pension is 30% of the Last Pay Drawn (LPD)**. When the Last Pay Drawn is revised by taking the notional increment into account, it is imperative that the family pension is also revised based on such

revised Last Pay Drawn. Family pension is intrinsically linked to the pensionary entitlement of the deceased employee/pensioner and is intended to provide social security to the surviving spouse and other eligible family members.

Once notional increment is recognized for fixation of the Last Pay Drawn and for determining pension, denying its consequential benefit for family pension creates an anomalous situation and results in undue hardship to the family.

It is also understood that in several cases, revised Pension Payment Orders (PPOs) were issued by the competent authorities reflecting corresponding revisions in family pension after grant of notional increment. The present clarification may therefore lead to inconsistency in implementation and unnecessary litigation.

We, therefore, request DoPT to kindly review the matter and issue a clarification that the benefit of notional increment, wherever admissible for pension, shall also be taken into account for the purpose of calculating family pension



A write-up on 3rd August 1946 in The Militant, a journal of socialists in USA

In a powerful demonstration of fighting strength, Indian workers crippled the huge city of Bombay by strike actions last week. The strikes quickly spread across the vast subcontinent of India to Calcutta, where telegraph operators and postal employees walked out. Communication services were at a standstill in both cities.

On July 23 the N.Y. Times reported that "India now apparently faces its worst labor crisis since the railway strike of 1928." A UP report on the same day stated: "It was feared that a general strike, covering Bombay province and affecting about 500,000 workers would be called within a few hours." No news of importance has been allowed to seep out since then.

The strike movement began on July 10 when 40,000 postal employees in six of the eleven provinces of British India went out on strike to back up their wage demands. Among the most poorly paid of India's exploited workers, a postman receives as little as 18 rupees (\$5.50) a month!

When the leaders of the Federation of Post and Telegraph Unions tried to get the men to return to work without satisfaction of their demands, the workers refused to go back, and seven of the thirteen postal unions affiliated with the Federation left it.

HISTORY

THE HISTORIC STRIKE BY POSTMEN IN 1946

Telegraph employees in Bombay then walked out in sympathy and were joined by 70,000 other workers in various industries in the city. In Calcutta 14,000 postal and telegraph workers walked out, shutting down all mail deliveries and telegraph service. Railroad shop workers threatened to go out in sympathy.

These strikes are but the latest development in a great movement of strike struggle that has swept all the major cities of India since the end of the war. The war brought the Indian, workers nothing but unemployment, inflationary prices and a continuation of their misery – with the horrible specter of another famine looming ever closer.

A significant aspect of the latest strikes is that the Congress Party has played no role in them – except to urge arbitration. The Congress Party, which represents the interests of the Indian capitalists, has been engaged in negotiations with the British Cabinet Mission. The purpose of these negotiations is, under the cloak of "independence," to make a new division of the profits and spoils between the Indian and British capitalists, with a larger share now going to the former.

The current strike struggles show that the Indian working class is beginning to play a more and more independent role. This will soon become manifest on the political as well as the economic plane.



HISTORY

THE HISTORIC STRIKE BY POSTMEN IN 1946

Press Statement by Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru

(Statement to the press, Bombay, 11 July 1946. The Hindustan Times, 12 July 1946.)

“Many people had heard of the coming of the postal strike, but this morning all India suddenly became conscious of it, and if no specific step is taken it is likely to be acutely conscious of it for a considerable time. A postal strike is always a calamity to the public and is to be avoided as far as possible. In labour disputes generally, and more particularly in regard to essential services, a civilized government and society provide other methods of settlement than that of the strike. Unfortunately our Government and social structure function differently.

I am not in a position to express an opinion about the detailed demands of the postal employees, although during the last five or six months the matter has come up before me on several occasions. Prima facie, the lower-paid postal employees are badly paid and live a hard life. Their service is known for its honesty, integrity and hard work and inevitably one’s sympathy goes to them.

One fact which is significant is that the Postal Inquiry Committee which functioned a year and half ago under the chairmanship of Mr. Krishna Prasad, the present Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs, presented a report in April 1945 which was suppressed. Why was it suppressed by the Government, although from all accounts it

was an unanimous report? This suppression does not bring credit to the Government. As I have said, I am unable to express any specific opinion about the demands, but I am quite convinced that this matter as a whole ought to have been referred to adjudication or arbitration. One very small aspect of the question relating to interim relief to men on new scales of pay has been referred to adjudication and the award is expected soon. But this does not cover the main points at issue.

I would strongly urge both the Government and the All-India Postal Union to accept a full adjudication or arbitration of the entire dispute. There can be a timelimit fixed for this and any recommendations or decisions may be made subject to the future findings of the Pay Commission which had begun considering the whole subject of official salaries, etc. If this step is taken it will be fair and honourable to all concerned and will bring relief to the public also who are suffering from this strike.

These same considerations also apply to the telegraph employees who have given notice of a strike. I would urge that their case also should be referred to adjudication or arbitration.

**SOURCE: SELECTED WORKS OF
JAWAHARLAL NEHRU, FIRST SERIES,
VOL. 15, pp. 627-628**

AUDTOR'S REPORT

To
The Members of
ALL INDIA BSNL PENSIONERS'
WELFARE ASSOCIATION

We have audited the financial statements of **M/s. ALL INDIA BSNL PENSIONERS' WELFARE ASSOCIATION, Chennai-40**, which comprise the Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2026 and the Income & Expenditure Account for the year then ended and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the entity as at March 31st, 2026 and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the Accounting Standards issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI).

We conducted the audit in accordance with Standards of Auditing (SAs) issued by ICAI. Our responsibilities under those Standards are further described in the **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements** section of our Report. We are independent of the entity, in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in India and we have fulfilled our other responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters,

the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during the audit.

ALL INDIA BSNL PENSIONERS' WELFARE ASSOCIATION

Notes annexed to and forming part of the Balance Sheet as at 31st Mar 2026 and of the Income and Expenditure Account for the financial year ended that date

1. The Financial Statements are prepared in accordance with the Accounting Standards issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, to the extent applicable.
2. The Financial Statements are prepared according to accrual system of accounting.
3. Fixed Assets are stated at Written Down Value less depreciation for the year.

II Others:

1. Membership subscription, being contributions from the members for welfare measures for the subscribers themselves, are taken to Capital Fund a/c., to the extent realized.
2. Depreciation on Fixed Assets is provided at the rates regularly followed.
3. Income tax is charged to Fund account based on actual payment.
4. The figures of the previous year are regrouped / reclassified / rearranged to suit current year's classification.

For **C R S & CO**

Chartered Accountants

Sd/-

Chennai

15th April 2026

(C.R.SWAMINATHAN)

Partner - MRN:025241

UDIN: 26025241AZPKEM9827

ALL INDIA BSNL PENSIONERS' WELFARE ASSOCIATION

REGN., NO. T1833/09

BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31.3.2026

LIABILITIES		ASSETS	
Funds Net b/f	34735126.68	Fixed Asset :-	
		<u>1.Computer: 19876</u>	
		less Dep., @ 40% Rs.7950	11926.00
		<u>2.Computer: 57000</u> (10.11.25)	
		less Dep., @ 40% Rs.7600	
		for 4 months	49400.00
		FURNITURE: 18275	16447.00
		Less Dep., @10% Rs.1828	
		CURRENT ASSETS	
		Fixed deposits	32000000.00
		IT Advance Tax for AY 26-27	100000.00
Expenditure		Cash at bank	2541816.18
Excess Income over exp		Cash on hand	15537.50
TOTAL	34735126.68	TOTAL	34735126.68

Accounts of Income and Expenditure for the year ending 31.3.2026

Expenditure	Amt in Rs.	Income	Amt in Rs.
Excess Income over exp	2070908.00	INTEREST FROM FDRs	1979757.00
		INTEREST FROM SB A/C	91151.00
TOTAL	2070908.00	TOTAL	2070908.00

Sd/-
D Gopalakrishnan
President

Sd/-
V Varaprasad
General Secretary

Sd/-
T S Vittoban
Treasurer

Chennai
15th April 2026

FOR CRS&CO
Chartered Accountants
Sd/-
(C.R.SWAMINATHAN) M No/ 025241

ALL INDIA BSNL PENSIONERS' WELFARE ASSOCIATION

REGN., NO. T1833/09

Account of Receipts and Payments for the year ending 31.3.2026

RECEIPTS		PAYMENTS	
OB - BANK	4043857.80	Patrika Printing	653070.56
OB - CASH	12574.50	Patrika Posting	177420.00
Bank Interest	2070908.00	Org. Tour	53261.00
CHQ quota	459600.00	Auditor Fees	47200.00
Journal Subscription	36100.00	Postage	2358.00
Misc., (44119.24-40975)	3144.24	Stationary	4975.00
IT Refund(61320-909)	60411.00	Conveyance	15432.00
Delegate fees recd from CBT	21600.00	Xerox/Misc	8476.00
Interest on incometax	909.00	Legal Exp.	1195000.00
		IT solution	5900.00
AIC'25Donation	4503701.00	Editor Allowance	116000.00
Maturity Value od FDRs	1000000.00	Bank Charges	631.30
Donation to CHQ	32502.00	Delgate fees	21600.00
DLC Incentive from DOP	419960.00	AIC25 Expenses	304909.00
Grant in aid for 25-26	150000.00	FD Reinvestment	2000000.00
		IT + Advance Tax	269020.00
		RNI EXP	2000.00
		LEGAL FUND TO NCCP	400000.00
		DLC Incentive tfd	419960.00
		AIC25 FUND TFD	4503701.00
		Laptop	57000.00
		Closing Balance : in Bank	2541816.18
		Cash	15537.50
TOTAL	12815267.54	TOTAL	12815267.54

Sd/-
D Gopalakrishnan
President

Sd/-
V Varaprasad
General Secretary

Sd/-
T S Vittoban
Treasurer

Chennai
15th April 2026

FOR CRS&CO
Chartered Accountants
Sd/-
(C.R.SWAMINATHAN) M No/ 025241

ALL INDIA BSNL PENSIONERS' WELFARE ASSOCIATION

REGN., NO. T1833/09

FUNDS SCHEDULE for the YEAR ENDING 31.3.2026

Expenses		Members' contribution	
Patrika Exp	830490.56	Opening Balance:1.4.25	35144583.30
Tours and Travels	53261.00	Journal subscription	36100.00
Auditor fees	47200.00	Quota received	459600.00
IT Solution (computer main)	5900.00	Misc.,	3144.24
Postage	2358.00	Donations	32502.00
Stationary	4975.00	LEGAL FUND delegate fees	21600.00
Misc.,	8476.00	AIC'25 Donations rccd	4503701.00
Conveyance	15432.00	DLC incentive	419960.00
Editor Allice.,	116000.00	Grant in aid for 25-26	150000.00
Bank Charges	631.30	<i>income tax refund fy23-24</i>	60411.00
Income Tax paid	169020.00	Intrest on income refund	909.00
Delegate fees	21600.00		
Legal Exp.,	1195000.00		
Advance Tax adjusted	50000.00	Excess Income over exp	2070908.00
Depreciation (New PC)	15550.00		
Depreciation-Furniture	1828.00		
RNI EXP	2000.00		
DLC Incentive tfd	419960.00		
AIC'25 Donation	4503701.00		
AIC'25 EXPENSES	304909.00		
LegL fund to NCCP	400000.00		
<i>Balance as on 31.3.26</i>	34735126.68		
TOTAL	42903418.54	TOTAL	42903418.54

Sd/-
D Gopalakrishnan
President

Sd/-
V Varaprasad
General Secretary

Sd/-
T S Vittoban
Treasurer

Chennai
15th April 2026

FOR CRS&CO
Chartered Accountants
Sd/-
(C.R.SWAMINATHAN) M No/ 025241

MADHYA PRADESH CIRCLE OFFICE - BEARERS

President : Sanjay Tiwari Jabalpur

Vice Presidents

V S Thakur	Bhopal
Saket Shukla	Jabalpur
S N Malviya	Ujjain
B Uke	Balaghat
S K Diwan	Jabalpur
Raju Singh	Bhopal
N D Praswani	Jabalpur

Circle Secretary : N K Garg Bhopal

Assistant Circle Secretaries

K K Gupta	Jabalpur
Uttam Bade	Ujjain
C L Meshram	Balaghat
K S Chouhan	Ratlam
R D Jain	Jabalpur
Smt. Mangla Reddey	Bhopal
G D Nayak	Katni

Treasurer : J. P. Karve Bhopal

Asst. Treasurer : Miss Mahima Yadav Bhopal

Organising Secretaries

D P Mishra	Katni
P S Thakur	Sagar
R D Shrivastava	Damoh
Devendra Kr. Kushwaha	Chhindwara
Rajesh Tiwari	Seoni
N G Suryavanshi	Bhopal
Ashok Kumar Pahuja	Jabalpur

Auditor : R N Sharma Bhopal

EMPHATIC PROTEST BY BSNL/MTNL RETIREES ALL OVER INDIA AGAINST DELAY IN GRANT OF IDR



PENSIONERS' PATRIKA

JULY - AUGUST 2026

RNI Regn No.TNBIL/2017/70652

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of alternate month

MP CIRCLE CONFERENCE ON 26-4-2026



NEW OFFICE BEARERS ELECTED



DELEGATES TO THE CONFERENCE

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