

PENSIONERS' PATRIKA

पेंशनर्स
पत्रिका

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KERALA BECKONS YOU





PUNJAB CIRCLE CONFERENCE: 25-4-2025
Com. G S Bajwa, CS addressing



PUNJAB CIRCLE CONFERENCE: 25-4-2025
A view of the Delegates



Ahmedabad
District
Conference

PENSIONERS PATRIKA

BIMONTHLY JOURNAL
OF AIBSNLPWA (CHQ)

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Rs. 1000 per copy

Editorial

ACT IMMEDIATELY

Time and again the Supreme Court and various High Courts in India declared that pensioners shall not be discriminated based on date of retirement. The Finance Minister repeatedly proclaims that the policy of present government is '*No discrimination*'. She reiterates that the seventh CPC restored the said policy of '*No discrimination*' truncated by the sixth CPC. Strange it is, the same Minister introduced the Finance Bill 2025 authorizing the government to discriminate pensioners based on date of their retirement. Instead of validating the existing rules ensuring '*No discrimination*', the FM sought to amend the rules so that Government acquires authority to discriminate pensioners. The statement of FM is untenable and fallacious because the Additional Solicitor General submitted before the Delhi Court that Judgement of the Court, upheld by the Supreme Court, stands annulled because of provisions contained in Finance Bill 2025. The amendments adopted effectively render all such Judgements that reinforced and safeguarded statutory provisions of CCS Pension Rules infructuous. It is naked injustice. Pensioners' community, irrespective of any political affinity of affiliation it has, must unitedly fight this dirty game. There may be times when we are powerless to prevent injustice, but there must never be a time when we fail to protest.

Mahatma Gandhiji told; "*To forgive and accept injustice is cowardice.*" Legendary leader of South African freedom struggle, Mr. Desmond Tutu, once told; "*If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor.*" Pensioners shall not appreciate 'neutrality' by leaders.

Some leaders remain indifferent. Indifference is not a response. Indifference is not a beginning; it is an end. And, indifference always benefits the aggressor; never the victims. Any fight for justice, any fight against injustice, demands some sacrifice. We should prefer sacrifice to silence. Silence at this stage is a crime. Gross injustice is meted out to the senior citizens in the country. Parliamentarians, except a few, remained silent when the obnoxious bill was introduced. They approved it without any murmur. We cannot remain silent. Let us move ahead unitedly. Any delay is dangerous.

Situation demands swift action to protect our pension.
Situation demands swift action to protect our dignity.



COURT CASE

The matters listed as Items 56-58 before Court No.42 at 3:30 PM on 26-05-2025 in the High Court of Delhi. Mr. Sanjay Ghose, Learned Senior Counsel, and Ms. Asmita Singh have appeared on our behalf. At 3:30 PM, the Hon'ble Court was still hearing Item 1. The counsel mentioned their matter and requested it be taken up for hearing, but the Court asked them to wait. At 4:00 PM, the matter was mentioned again, highlighting the urgent issue of grant of revision under the 7th CPC to pensioners, who have been awaiting relief for nearly a decade. The Court expressed willingness to hear the matter but, due to lack of time, adjourned it to next date, which was fixed for 29th July 2025 at 3:30 PM.

UNITED FIGHT AGAINST PENSION RULE AMENDMENT

An online meeting of the National Coordination Committee of Pensioners' Associations (NCCPA) was held on 10th June 2025 at 15:30 hrs, to deliberate and decide about the course of action to challenge the Validation Act, 2025, passed through finance bill on 25/3/25. This is the second meeting of NCCPA after 2/5/25. Our Association was represented by:

- ◆ Com. D. Gopalakrishnan,
- ◆ Com. P. Gangadhara Rao
- ◆ Com. V. Vara Prasad,

27 representatives from various Pensioners' Associations, including leaders of Telecom pensioners, (Comrades VAN Namboodiri, M K Bagchi, Prahalad Rai, Jogi, A K Kaushik, JS Yadav, R K Moudgal and K G Jayaraj) participated in the meeting, which lasted over two hours. Apart from President and SG of NCCPA, 15 representatives gave their opinion.

Com. Shiv Gopal Mishra, President, NCCPA presided.

He explained about his talks with S-30 pensioners' association leaders and informed that the validation act has to be challenged through Writ Petition. 8th CPC Terms of Reference may be released in the next fortnight. Should we wait till such time or WP can be filed without waiting for that. He also said that it is better to engage the same lawyer since he is aware of the case.

Com. D. Gopalakrishnan informed the participants: That he had spoken with Shri Prem Sharma, General Secretary of the S-30 Pensioners Association, which had already filed a writ petition in the Hon'ble Supreme Court, apart from praying for honouring the Delhi HC judgement, delivered in their favour, challenged the Validation Act, 2025. He also said about the advantage of engaging Shri Vikas Singh, father of the lawyer appearing for S-30 pensioners' association. He suggested that if NCCPA has no objection he can invite the Secretary, S-30 Pensioners' association to this meeting. His suggestion was accepted. DG also informed the meeting about Com AK Koushik, GS, RTOWA, Delhi meeting with Shri Kapil Sibal and on his request,

Shri Sibal agreed to take up the case and asked Com Kaushik to meet him after 16th June since he is out of Delhi till 16th.

Com V Vara Prasad General Secretary informed that AIBSNLPWA is committed to protect the pensioners' rights and for a legal fight against the ACT. The deliberations of this meeting will be discussed internally in our CWC, to be held shortly and take appropriate decisions.

After hearing the views of other participants, it was decided to challenge the Validation Act 2025 before the Hon'ble Supreme Court, through a Writ Petition at the earliest. We would suggest to the lawyer for praying *Declare the Validation Act 2025, issued through a Gazette Notification dated 29/3/2025 as illegal and ultra-vires of the Constitution, against separation of powers between the three pillars, enshrined in the Constitution.*

Engagement of a Senior Advocate of national stature—preferably Shri Kapil Sibal or Shri Vikas Singh—was strongly recommended.

Shri Prem Sharma, General Secretary of the S-30 Pensioners Association, briefed the participants on the status of their case, which was filed in the Hon'ble Supreme Court on May 19, 2025, and admitted on May 23 (last working day before summer vacation) by Chief Justice, with next hearing scheduled for July 22, 2025. Shri Vikas Singh was also present in SC on that day. Shri Prem Sharma explained their difficulty faced in Delhi HC, where

different lawyers were engaged by different petitioners. The adjournment became inevitable because one or the other sought adjournment.

There was a general consensus that both Shri Kapil Sibal and Shri Vikas Singh are quite competent to deal with the case. So, it was decided that a small committee under the guidance of Shri Shiv Gopal Mishra, President, NCCPA, shall meet both the lawyers and discuss about various aspects including the expenditure. Based on their feedback, the lawyer shall be fixed at the earliest. The expenditure shall be shared by the associations. All associations will begin mobilizing funds.

Organizational Programme:

The program of action includes Human Chain in all districts as a first phase, State-Level Conventions and march to Rajbhawan to submit the memorandum in second phase, and Delhi Chalo program, submission of memorandum to President of India Prime Minister of India and Chief Justice of India. A Mass Rally in Delhi, with participation from all states. Memoranda Submission to MPs, of all political parties. The meeting marked a significant step forward in building a united legal and organizational front to challenge the Validation Clauses in the CCS Pension Rules.

ALL INDIA CONFERENCE

Today, AIBSNLPWA is the largest organization of Telecom Pensioners in India. Our national conference is a huge conference. Many circles do not dare to host such a conference considering the huge expenditure

involved. We consciously amended our Constitution in last AIC at Visakhapatnam to reduce the burden on host circle/branch. Still we expect 900 participants in the next AIC to be held at Kochi in November 2025. Approximate expenditure is Rs ONE CRORE in addition to the travelling expenses by the Delegates. All participants being senior citizens, most of them above 70, have to be provided rooms with cots. During my recent visit to Kerala, for the circle conference held in a small town in Kollam district, I observed that Kerala comrades have formed a Preparatory Committee to start the initial work for holding the AIC. CHQ leaders consisting of Coms. R N Pada Nair, S G Panicker, Smt. A P Saraswathy and Circle Secretary Com. George led by Com. PSR toured all over the Circle, held special conventions and convinced all members to donate liberally. It had the desired results. Still there is a limit. Our comrades decided to raise the funds only from our own members, not from anyone else outside. The unexpected pre monsoon rains have created problems for our hosts. They had to seek new accommodation spending about Rs. Ten lakh more.

AIC Fund

Once again I call upon all our members to donate Rs 100 per member towards AIC Fund so that the burden of hosts can be minimized.

Credential Certificate

All India Conference or Circle Conference is an assembly of representatives of our District Units. Hence only elected delegates can be

admitted in such conferences. Nobody who is not duly elected by his District Unit can be permitted. We had seen that some comrades not elected by the Branch attending the conference and creating disturbances. We should avoid it. As such, every Delegate attending the next AIC must submit credential certificate signed by his District Secretary. Copy of Credential Certificate is already circulated to District Secretaries. It is published in this journal also. Major branches having more than 10 delegates may take additional copies and use.

ID Card

Every delegate must carry photo ID Card. In case contest takes place, delegates will be permitted to cast votes after verifying his ID Card.

Food

Kerala comrades are trying their best to arrange comfortable lodging and boarding. Kerala, being at the south-most corner of our country, has an entirely different food culture. Comrades from other circles may please be prepared to adjust with it for two days.

Serious problems

We are facing serious problems. Entire pensioners in the country face a grave situation. Therefore, many others look forward to our AIC. The AIC is forum for serious debate, not for sight-seeing. Let us uphold our tradition, adhere to our principles and provisions of our Constitution and hold the historic event in a most disciplined manner.

V Vara Prasad, GS

CHQ LETTERS

ON NOTIONAL INCREMENT TO VRS OPTEEES

**CHQ Letter dt. 23-5-2025
to CMD BSNL**

We bring to your kind attention a pressing concern affecting thousands of BSNL VRS-2019 retirees, particularly those whose next annual increment was due on 01-02-2020, just one day after their VRS retirement on 31-01-2020.

The DoT OM dated 22-01-2025 and the DoP&T OM dated 20-05-2025 clearly state that notional increment for pension purposes is admissible to all eligible retirees who have completed one year of qualifying service with satisfactory conduct—irrespective of the mode of retirement.

However, BSNL Corporate Office's letter dated 10-03-2025 has unjustly limited this benefit only to the super annuated employees, excluding VRS-2019 retirees, which we respectfully contest on the following grounds:

- VRS-2019 was a centrally approved policy with no option for employees to choose their retirement date; over 78,500 employees were uniformly retired on 31-01-2020.
- BSNL's own order dated 23-11-2019 equated VRS retirement with super annuation.

■ The Supreme Court's judgment dated 11-04-2023 and subsequent orders on 20-02-2025 make no distinction between modes of retirement regarding notional increment.

■ The DoP&T OM (20-05-2025) mandates extension of increment to those retiring a day before it was due.

■ Denial of this benefit to VRS retirees amounts to discrimination and undermines assurances given during the VRS rollout.

We therefore urge you to issue fresh instructions extending this benefit to all eligible VRS-2019 retirees, particularly those due for increment on 01-02-2020, in line with Government policy and legal directives.

ON BSNLMRS OPTION BY FAMILY PENSIONERS

**CHQ Letter dt.16-4-2025
to Director HR BSNL**

Kindly refer to the clarification issued by the BSNL Corporate Office vide letter No. BSNL/ Admn.1/15-1/2019 dated 15-01-2021, which states: **“On the death of a BSNL employee who was availing BSNL MRS facility, the spouse/ dependent children shall continue to avail the same facility as was being availed by the employee prior to his/ her death. However, the dependents shall not be**

entitled to change any option.”

This provision has caused practical difficulties for family pensioners. In most cases, family pensioners are unaware of the option that was availed by the deceased employee prior to his/her demise. After their loss, these family members — often elderly and unfamiliar with official procedures — face significant challenges in gathering and submitting medical bills as required under the existing option.

Many family pensioners would find it far more convenient and beneficial to opt for the “without voucher” facility, which allows partial reimbursement without the burden of extensive documentation.

Moreover, unlike regular pensioners, family pensioners are currently denied the flexibility to select or change their preferred option. In the interest of fairness and welfare, it is only reasonable that family pensioners be permitted to exercise the choice of option, or revise it once in a financial year, at par with pensioners.

In view of these circumstances, we request the BSNL management to kindly amend the policy guidelines and allow family pensioners to choose or change their medical option once a year, in line with the practice permitted for pensioners.

**RENT FREE
CONCESSIONAL
TELEPHONE
CONNECTION**

**CHQ Letter dt. 29-5-2025
to CMD BSNL**

We request your kind attention and intervention on behalf of retired DoT and BSNL employees regarding the withdrawal of the rent-free landline facility with 1000 bimonthly free calls, which was extended as a post-retirement benefit.

Many retired colleagues, particularly those in their 70s and 80s, are unfamiliar with smartphones and data-based services. For them, the traditional landline is not just a means of communication but a vital link to family and emergency support. Its discontinuation from 01.06.2024 has caused significant hardship and distress among senior retirees nationwide.

While we acknowledge BSNL's shift to modern technologies like FTTH and GSM, the alternatives offered—such as the GSM Postpaid Plan 199 or concessional FTTH—are either not user-friendly for the elderly or not free, defeating the original purpose of the retirement benefit.

We wish to highlight the recent order of the Hon'ble Central Administrative Tribunal, Ernakulam Bench (OA Nos. 180/00451/2024 & 180/00527/2024, dated 27th January 2025), which

clearly directs BSNL to restore telephone facilities to retired employees in accordance with the terms applicable at the time of their retirement. In light of the above, we urge BSNL to:

1. Reinstate the free voice call facility (equivalent to 1000 bimonthly calls) for retired DoT/BSNL employees, using any available technology landline, FTTH voice-only, or simplified GSM.

2. Ensure the facility is user-friendly, particularly for elderly retirees who may not be familiar with digital services. 3. Issue clear and uniform instructions to all circles for timely implementation of this facility. We remain hopeful for a favourable response.

ON EXCESS RECOVERY

**CHQ Letter dt. 10-6-2025
to CMD BSNL**

We respectfully submit for your kind attention the recent judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in SLP(C) No. 5943 of 2021 and SLP(C) No. 930 of 2022, which pertains to the recovery of excess payment from TTAs who had officiated as JTOs between 2005 and 2014.

In this landmark ruling, the Hon'ble Supreme Court has explicitly held that recovery of excess payment made for officiating as JTOs during that period would be unjust and cause immense hardship, and

therefore directed no recovery of higher emoluments already paid to the appellants. The Court has cited earlier judgments (including State of Punjab vs. Rafiq Masih) and concluded that such recoveries violate principles of equity and fairness. While the Court declined to implead other similarly placed individuals who were not parties to the original proceedings, it left open the option for them to pursue appropriate legal remedies. However, to avoid a flood of litigations across various circles, we strongly urge BSNL Corporate Office to apply the spirit and essence of the Supreme Court order uniformly to all affected TTAs/JTO officiating officials—many of whom are now retired pensioners.

We, therefore, request:

Immediate issuance of a general order from BSNL Corporate Office directing all circles not to effect recoveries from similarly placed officials covered under the same period and circumstances.

Consideration of such retired officials' cases sympathetically and uniformly, ensuring that they are not forced to approach courts individually.

Avoidance of unnecessary litigation, cost, and mental agony to senior citizens and pensioners, many of whom served the department faithfully for decades.

Expecting an early favourable decision in this regard.

RECEPTION COMMITTEE FOR
ALL INDIA CONFERENCE OF
ALL INDIA BSNL PENSIONERS' WELFARE ASSOCIATION
Manikkiri House, Manikkiri Road, KOCHI 682016
Bulletin No. 1

Dear friends,

**Welcome to Kerala,
Welcome to the AIC.**

The Reception Committee for the 6th All India Conference of our mighty organization, AIBSNLPWA, welcomes you to Kochi, Kerala. We give some information below to make your journey and stay convenient and enjoyable.

Date:

AIC will be held on 8th and 9th November 2025 preceded by CWC meeting on 7th November 2025. Conference will be inaugurated at 10 AM on 8th. Flag will be hoisted at 9.45 AM. Delegate session will commence at 3 PM after lunch on 8th and will end by 6 PM on 9th.

Registration:

Delegates will be registered as soon as they arrive. We wish to finish the work before flag hoisting. This will be possible if all the District Units send the list of elected delegates well in advance and remit the Delegate Fee as well. Every Delegate must submit the Credential Certificate signed by respective District Secretary. Unauthorized persons cannot be admitted in Lodges and the Conference venue.

Venue:

We faced serious problems in getting suitable Accommodation. First we had arranged an auditorium. But, during the pre-monsoon rains the auditorium was damaged. The repair work may start only after monsoon is over and hence it will not be available for us in November 2025. We are forced to find an alternate hall in a 4 Star Hotel costing about Rs. 10 lakhs extra. Inaugural function and Delegate Session will be held in

Hotel Renai, Cochin at Palarivattom (*Paalaarivattam*) which is 3 Kms away from Ernakulam Town railway station and 5 Kms away from Ernakulam Junction railway station. It is just 100 feet from the Palarivattom Metro Station. The auditorium can accommodate 900 people.

Lodging:

We have booked Hotel rooms near the railway stations to accommodate 810 delegates and 55 CWC members. Kerala Police permits conferences with a condition that all occupants should carry photo ID cards always. Our Nation is facing threats from anti-national elements everywhere. So, all Delegates should bring their Aadhaar Card and submit it to the lodges before occupying the rooms. Reception Committee will arrange rooms only to the elected delegates restricting the number as per the Constitution of our Association. Accommodation will be available from forenoon of 7th and up to 11 AM on 10th. Those who reach before 7th and stay back after AIC may make their own arrangements. Exclusive accommodation is arranged for ladies.

Food:

Earlier, we wished to arrange food from 7th onwards. Since the venue is changed it is not possible now. Hotel Renai is available on 8th and 9th only, that too lunch and dinner. Moreover, as trains are reaching Ernakulam at different times we cannot assess exact number of people to be served on 7th. Therefore, those who reach on 7th may please take food from some restaurants outside. Lunch and Dinner for the Delegates shall be arranged by Reception Committee on 8th and 9th November at the venue of the conference. We are making some arrangements to provide your breakfast at the respective places you stay. Details will be given in our next Bulletin.

Reception:

Entire 7000 members of Kerala Circle are your hosts. However, we have formed a 300 members Reception Committee with Com. M. Anilkumar (Mayor of Kochi) as Patron, Shri. Hibi Eden MP as Chairman, Com. R N Pada Nair as Working Chairman, Com. T P George as General Convener, Com. V Krishnaswami (newly elected Circle Secretary) as Joint Convener and Com. K A Augustine as Treasurer. Our volunteers will receive you at Ernakulam Town (first one while coming from North) Railway Station and Ernakulam Junction Railway Station on 7th November 2025. Details of arrival and departure of trains at Ernakulam are given elsewhere. Please book your tickets well in time. If delayed it may be difficult to get tickets. Immediately after booking tickets please send the list to Reception Committee through whatsapp or SMS. In case of need, please contact following comrades:

R N Pada Nair : 944 636 3033
T P George: 944 756 4404
V Krishnaswami : 944 652 2130
K A Augustine: 9447731736, 9633031736
828 130 8025

Delegate Fee reduced:

Earlier, we thought of fixing the Delegate Fee @ Rs. 1500 per delegate. As food is provided for two days only, we reduce it to Rs. 1200 per head, (In last AIC it was Rs 1300.) even though the food itself costs about Rs 3400 per person.

Remit Delegate Fee on-line:

As done for Visakhapatnam AIC, you can remit the Delegate Fee on-line to the Account of the Reception Committee. Details are:

Payee: AIBSNLPWA Kerala
Name of bank: Bank of Baroda
Ernakulam Main Br.
Current A/c No 05600200000853
IFSC: BARB0ERNAKU

(Note: the 5th digit in IFSC is figure Zero, not letter O).

or

Using GPay or BHIM, you can directly remit it scanning the following QR Code



Soon after remitting the amount please send a message invariably to 82813 08025 to enable us account it properly and promptly. It will save time at Registration point.

Weather:

Weather in Kochi will be delightful (24c-30c). Participants may carry woolen clothes for journey, if required.

Tourist attractions:

Kochi (known as Queen of the Arabian Sea) is the commercial capital of Kerala, famous for its rich history as a major port city, its beautiful backwaters, and its vibrant cultural heritage, including the iconic Chinese fishing nets. You can enjoy a Boat ride or even Ship Cruise which is undoubtedly costly. Entire Kerala is enchanting. But, please organize your visits only after the conference is over. We will help you in selecting locations. AIC is our prime and primary destination. We are facing many serious problems. Let us devote our time to discuss them and take proper decisions. Let us make the Kochi AIC a memorable event and strengthen our organization.

With Regards,

T P George,
General Convener

V Krishnaswami,
Circle Secretary and
Jt. Convener.

21-6-2025



AIC FUND

Dear Friends,

Please refer the Bulletin No. 1 issued by Reception Committee for our next All India Conference to be held in November 2025 at Kochi (Ernakulam), published elsewhere in this journal. You get all necessary information about the arrangements.

Kerala comrades with great zeal and unbridled enthusiasm are moving very systematically to host the event, as I could observe during the recently held Circle Conference. We all must appreciate their efforts. Same time, let us understand the different situation prevailing in Kerala. There is no *dharamsala* in the state. Hotel rooms have to be arranged for stay of all participants. Kochi is a costly city. There are conference halls, charging Rs. 5-7 lakh per day plus GST. We cannot afford them. Our Kerala comrades had fixed an auditorium with lower cost but it is now damaged due to unexpected heavy rains lashed before the south west monsoon arrived. So the Reception Committee had fixed another auditorium in a 4-Star Hotel. The food is quite costly in the hotel. Reception Committee has to spend average Rs. 3400 per head for two days. At the same time, breakfast is not available. Alternate arrangement is being made to provide breakfast on 8th and 9th November. Trains are arriving in Ernakulam stations from 6.45 AM up to 11 PM. As such, a proper assessment cannot be done to provide food on 7th. Hence, Reception Committee is forced to ask us all to take food from Restaurants outside on 7th. Due to this change in the arrangements as planned earlier, Kerala comrades have decided to charge only Rs 1200 per head as Delegate Fee. Kindly remember, the Delegate Fee was Rs 1300 at Visakhapatnam.

The organizers of Visakhapatnam AIC spent Rs 76 lakhs. At Kochi it may be around Rupees One core. Kerala comrades alone cannot raise that much fund.

AIC FUND

Hence our members in all the circles should come forward to contribute liberally. District Secretaries are requested to collect AIC fund at the rate of Rs 100 per head from every member, as decided by our Patiala CWC, and remit it to the CHQ.

- Please do not send the AIC Fund to Reception Committee.
- AIC Fund shall be sent to CHQ Treasurer. After remitting the amount on-line, please send a message to our Treasurer Com. T S Vittoban so that he can account it promptly.
- Delegate Fee may be sent to the Reception Committee.

With Regards,

V Vara Prasad,
General Secretary.

TRAINS ARRIVING AT ERNAKULAM ON 7-11-2025

Time	Station	Tr. No.	From	Via
03.45	EKM Town	16381	Pune	Sholapur, Wadi, Renigunta
06.40	EKM Town	12623	Chennai	Katpadi, Palakkad
1155	EKM Town	17230	Hyderabad	Guntur, Renigtunta, Palakkad
1425	EKM Town	22504	Assam	Gauhati, Cuttck, Vizag, Renigunta
1455	EKM Town	16318	Jammu	Jammu, Rohtak, Newdelhi, Vijayawada
1650	EKM Town	12626	Newdelhi	Agra, Bhopal, Nagpur, Vijayawada
06.45	EKM Jn.	16187	Karaikal	Trichy, Thanjavur
07.20	EKM Jn.	16526	Bangalore	Salem, Palakkad
07.30	EKM Jn.	12618	Nizamuddin	Agra, Gwalior, Bhopal, Vadodara, Goa
07.55	EKM Jn.	12484	Amritsar	Nizamudin, Kota, Goa
08.45	EKM Jn.	22639	Chennai	Jolarpetta, Palakkad
10.35	EKM Jn.	06086	Patna	Asansol, Bhubaneswar, Perambur
1025	EKM Jn.	20932	Indore	Ratlam, Vadodara, Goa
1130	EKM Jn.	12521	Gorakhpur	Kanpur, Itarsi, Nagpur, Chennai
1145	EKM Jn.	20631	Mangalore	Calicut, Trichur
1230	EKM Jn.	16345	Mumbai	Goa, Mangalore
1240	EKM Jn.	13351	Dhanbad	Ranchi, Rourkela, Vizag, Chennai
1425	EKM Jn.	16619	Mangalore	Calicut, Trichur
1505	EKM Jn.	22642	Shalimar	Bhubaneswar, Vizag, Perambur
1655	EKM Jn.	12677	Bangalore	Hosur, Coimbatore
1850	EKM Jn.	22150	Pune	Ratnagiri, Goa, Mangalore
1915	EKM Jn.	12432	Nizamuddin	Vadodra, Goa, Mangalore
21.40	EKM Jn.	22670	Patna	Varanasi, Prayag, Nagpur, Salem

Note: Ticket can be booked in September 2025, two months in advance.

TRAINS DEPARTURE FROM ERNAKULAM ON 10.11.25

Time	Station	Tr. No.	To	Via
07.15	EKM JN	18190	Tata	Vijayawada, Vizianagaram, Rorukela
07.25	EKM JN	13352	Dhanbad	Chennai, Vijayawada, Sambalpur
09.10	EKM JN	12678	Bangalore	Trichur, Palakkad
12.55	EKM JN	12217	Chandigarh	Kota, New Delhi, Ambala
13.25	EKM JN	12617	Nizammudin	Goa, Ratlam, Kota
13.50	EKM JN	16346	Mumbai	Goa, Panvel
14.20	EKM JN	19577	Jamnagar	Mangalore, Goa, Panvel, Ahmedabad
16.35	EKM JN	22640	Chennai	Podanur, Salem
16.50	EKM JN	12683	Bangalore	Palakkad, Coimbatore
16.55	EKM JN	16515	Bangalore	Palakkad, Salem
17.20	EKM JN	22643	Patna	Vijayawada, Bhubaneshwar
18.50	EKM JN	11098	Pune	Goa, Belgaum, Satara
05.10	EKM Town	22114	Mumbai	Mangalore, Goa
10.05	EKM Town	22648	Korba	Vijayawada, Nagpur, Bilaspur
11.15	EKM Town	17229	Hyderabad	Tirupathi, Guntur
13.40	EKM Town	07194	Hyderabad	Tirupathi, Guntur
15.10	EKM Town	16382	Pune	Renigunta, Solapur
16.10	EKM Town	12625	Newdelhi	Vijayawada, Nagpur, Agra
19.00	EKM Town	16525	Chennai	Palakkad, Salem

Note: Ticket can be booked in September 2025, two months in advance. Immediately after booking, please inform the Reception Committee.



RECEPTION COMMITTEE FORMED

A 300 members strong Reception Committee was formed to host the 6th All India Conference of AIBSNLPWA in November 2025 in Kochi. A meeting of various pensioners organizations was held in Adhyapaka Bhavan Kochi on 21.6.2025 presided over by Com. R N Pada Nair. Com. T P George welcomed the gathering. Com. P S Ramankutty explained importance of the AIC and the grave situation now faced by entire pensioners community in India and the need to fight unitedly to protect pension. Com C M Purushothaman (DOT BSNL PA), Com. A N Sabu (SNPWA) and Com. G Rajasekharan (DRPU) addressing the meeting assured all assistance. Com. K M Joseph proposed vote of thanks.

The meeting formed Reception Committee with

Patron:	Com. M Anilkumar (Mayor of Kochi Corporation)
Chairman:	Sri. Hibi Eden M P
Advisor:	Com. P S Ramankutty
Working Chairman :	Com. R N Pada Nair
General Convener:	Com.. T P George
Jt Convener:	Com. V Krishnaswami
Treasurer:	Com. K A Augustine

Vice Presidents:

S/s C M Purushothaman (DOT BSNLPA), A N Sabu (SNPWA),
 Alias Chacko (AIRBSNLPWA), G Rajasekharan (DRPU)
 K Ravindran, A P Saraswathy, S G Panicker, Annie Preman,
 T Ramachandran, K T Ramanarayanan, M C Chacko,(AIBSNLPWA).

Ten Sub Committees also have been constituted.

ORDERS

NOTIONAL INCREMENT FOR BSNL STAFF

**DoT OM No.38-66/2024-Pen(T)(I)
Dt 26-5-2025**

Kindly refer to the instructions issued vide this department OM No 38-45/2024-Pen. (T) (Part-1) dated 22.01.2025 (copy enclosed) regarding grant of notional increment to the absorbed employees of BSNL/MTNL who retired/are retiring a day before it became due in any month of the year.

2 The said instructions were issued in compliance of the Interim Order dated 06.09.2024 passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court while hearing MA No 2400/2024 filed by M/o Railways along with several Intervention Applications tagged herewith. It was indicated therein that the action taken shall be subject to the final outcome of the petition (Dy No. 36418/2024) tiled by this Department seeking review of the Order dated 11.04.2023 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in CA No. 2471/2023 on the subject matter.

3. Hon'ble Supreme Court, vide order dated 18.12.2024, had dismissed the Review Petition (Dy. No.36418/2024) filed by DoPT with the observation that there is no error apparent on the face of the record. warranting reconsideration of the order impugned.

4. The DoPT vide its OM 19/116/2024-Pers.Pol.(Pay(Pt) dated 20-05-2025 has communicated the Hon'ble Supreme Court final Order dated 20.02.2025 as below:

(a) The judgment dated 11.04.2023 will be given effect to in case of third parties from the date of the judgment, that is, the pension by taking into account

one increment will be payable on and after 01.05.2023. Enhanced pension for the period prior to 30.04.2023 (erroneously mention as 3J.04.2023 in the Order) will not be paid.

(b) For persons who have filed writ petitions and succeeded, the directions given in the said judgment will operate as res judicata, and accordingly, an enhanced pension by taking one increment would have to be paid.

(c) The direction in (b) will not apply, where the judgment has not attained finality, and cases where an appeal has been preferred, or if filed, is entertained by the appellate court.

(d) In case any retired employee filed an application for intervention/impleadment /writ petition /original application before the Central Administrative Tribunal /High Courts/Supreme Court, the enhanced pension by including one increment will be payable for the period or three years prior to the months in which the application for intervention/impleadment/writ petition/ original application was filed.

5. The Hon'ble Supreme Court has decided that the direction referred at para 4(d) above will not apply to the retired Government employee who filed a writ petition/original application or an application for intervention before the Central Administrative Tribunal/High Courts/Supreme Court after the judgment in 'Union of India & Anr. Vs M Siddaraj' i.e. 11.04.2023. as in such cases directions referred in para 4(a) will apply.

6 Hon'ble Supreme Court has clarified that in case any excess payment has already been made, including arrears, such amount paid will not be recovered. Court has decided that pending applications including all intervention/impleadment applications shall stand disposed of in terms of this order

7. The DoPT OM No. 19/116/2024-Pers.Pol.(Pay)(Pt) dated 20-05-2025 has been examined in this department in consultation with Account Wing, DoT. After careful consideration it has been decided by the competent authority that the Notional Increment, as it was due in any month of the year in favour of all eligible should be drawn in favour of all the eligible retired employees/third parties, who had retired/are retiring from BSNL/MTNL service w.e.f. 01.01.2006 as decided for DoT employees also. However, actual monetary benefit should be given w.e.f. 01.05.2023.

8. This OM shall be made applicable to the employees who have rendered the requisite qualifying service as on the date of their superannuation with satisfactory work and good conduct for calculating the pension admissible to them. Gram of the notional increment in any month of the year shall be reckoned only for the purpose of calculating the pension admissible and not for the purpose of calculation of other pensionary benefits.

9. The applicability of notional increment guidelines w.r.t. the absorbed employees of BSNL/MTNL who retired under VRS Scheme-2019, is being examined. Instructions in this regard will be issued separately.

**NOTIONAL INCREMENT
TO BSNL STAFF**

BSNLCO-A/12(17)/3/2021-ESTAB
Date: 05.06.2025

In accordance with above-mentioned order dated 20.02.2025 of Hon'ble Supreme Court in MA No.2400/2024 in CA No.3933/2023 and DoP&T OM dated 20.05.2025, DoT vide OM No o.38-66/2024-Pen(T) () dated 26.05.2025 (copy enclosed) has

issued modified instructions allow notional increment to the absorbed employees of BSNL, who are retiring/retired from BSNL w.e.f. 01.01.2006 and have rendered the requisite qualifying service as on the date of their superannuation with satisfactory work and good conduct. DoT has further decided that the benefit of notional increment as it was due in any month of the year should be drawn in favour of eligible retired employees/third parties, who had retired/are retiring from BSNL service w.e.f. 01.01.2006. Actual benefits in respect of different categories of employees will be governed as per the stipulation of Para 4, 5 and 6 of OM dated 20.05.2025.

I am directed to refer to this office letter of even number dated 28.01.2025 and to say that DoT vide OM No. 38-66/2024-Pen(T)() dated 22.01.2025 had allowed grant of notional increment to absorbed employees of BSNL, who are retiring/retired from BSNL w.e.f. 01.01.2006 and have rendered the requisite qualifying service as on the date of their superannuation with satisfactory work and good conduct. The said DoT OM dated 22.01.2025 was issued in accordance with the interim order dated 06.09.2024 in MA Dy. No.2400/2024 of Hon'ble Supreme Court in CA No. 3933/2024. The OM dated 22.01.2025 was further subject to outcome of Review Petition Dy. No.36418/2024 in CA No.2471/2023 and MA Dy. No.2400/2024 in CA No.3933/2024 pending before Hon'ble Supreme Court. While the Review Petition Dy. No.36418/2024 has been dismissed vide order dated 18.12.2024, the MA Dy. No.2400/2024 has been disposed of by the Hon'ble Supreme Court vide order dated 20.02.2025 wherein the interim order dated 06.09.2024 in MA Dy. No.2400/2024 has been modified. Based on the order dated 20.02.2025 in MA No.2400/2024, DoP&T vide OM No.19/116/2024-Pers.Pol. (Pay(Pt.)) dated 20.05.2025 has issued instructions for grant of notional increment for grant of pension to central government employees.

All Circles/Units are requested to implement the above-mentioned DoT OM dated 26.05.2025 in respect of eligible absorbed employees retiring/retired on superannuation from BSNL w.e.f. 01.01.2006. The conditions and eligibility criteria stipulated in the OM shall be followed meticulously while calculating the pension processing the cases of notional increment only for the purpose of pension admissible and not for calculation of other pensionary benefits.

The cases of eligible employees for grant of notional increment for pension in terms of DoT OM dated 26.05.2025 shall be taken up with the concerned CCA. However, priority may be given to the cases where there are any directions from the Hon'ble Central Administrative Tribunals or that of other judicial forums and forward such cases along with the judicial orders to the concerned CCAs for further action.

REDRESSAL OF GRIEVANCES

BSNL -COMN/12(11)/1/2005 dated 16-6-2025
To, CGMs Telecom Circles,

Subject: Special Campaign 2.0 for timely and qualitative redressal of grievances of family pensioners and super senior pensioners during the period July 1-31, 2025- reg 2.

Please find enclosed herewith a copy of DOPPW letter F-No- 14/08/2025 P&PW(CPEN)-10838 dated 10.06.2025 which is self-explanatory on the above mentioned issue and also explaining the guidelines of the Special Campaign 2.0. The prime objective of the campaign is to provide qualitative redressal of the grievances. Hence, grievances should be closed on Portal only after their conclusive redressal . The relevant order/document including letter/e mail is

also to be uploaded along with the Action Taken Report (ATR) at the time of redressal.

2. You are requested to take appropriate action timely for early disposal of these pendencies during the implementation phase of the campaign Period i.e. from 01.07.2025 to 31.07.2025. The list of cases pertaining to BSNL is enclosed. This issues with the approval of competent authority.

DOP&PW OM

F-No-14/08/2025-P&PW(CPEN)-10838 Dt 10-6-25

Subject: Special Campaign 2.0 for timely and qualitative redressal of grievances of family pensioners and super senior pensioners during the period July 1-31, 2025-

The Government of India is committed towards the empowerment of women and welfare of Senior Citizens by effective redressal of Central Government pensioners' grievances.

2. In this connection, it has been decided to launch a Special Campaign 2.0, during the period July 1-31, 2025, for the timely and qualitative redressal of Grievances of Family Pensioners and Super Senior Pensioners in a mission mode approach. The Campaign will be conducted across all Central Ministries/Departments and their attached/subordinate offices.

3. The guidelines for the successful execution of the Special Campaign are outlined as under:

I. DoPPW has prepared the list of Family Pensioners' grievances and Super Senior Pensioners' grievances, pending on CPENGRAMS Portal as on 09.06.2025 and the same is being shared with the concerned Ministries/Departments/Organizations for redressal under the campaign (Annexure-1).

II. The Ministries/Departments/Organizations shall nominate Nodal PG officers well versed with the Pension rules/procedures for qualitative and expeditious redressal of the grievances, shared with them.

III. DoPPW will coordinate the implementation of the campaign and provide necessary assistance on rules position and procedures as deemed necessary for support to Ministries/Departments. For further information, Ministries/Departments may contact Dr. Pramod Kumar, Director, DoPPW, (Telephone no.-011-24654734 and E-mail: pramod.kumar79@gov.in).

IV. The prime objective of the campaign is to provide qualitative redressal of the grievances. Hence, grievances should be closed on CPENGRAMS Portal only after their conclusive redressal. The relevant order/document including PPO/letter/e-mail is also to be uploaded along with the Action Taken Report (ATR) at the time of redressal.

v. Success stories/Best practices may be widely disseminated by the concerned Ministry/Department/Organization through PIB/Tweet with copy endorsed to this Department. The hashtag of the campaign is **Special Campaign Family Pension 2.0**

4. A total of 2210 grievances of Family Pensioners and Super Senior Pensioners pending with various Ministries/Departments/Organizations as on 09-06-2025, are being taken up for redressal during the Special Campaign 2.0

5. All the Ministries/Departments/Organizations are requested to direct the concerned officers including attached/subordinate/field offices under their jurisdiction to adhere to the above guidelines (para 3) for successful implementation of the Special Campaign 2.0.

PENSION RULES FOR ABSORBED EMPLOYEES

Govt Tightens Pension Rules for PSU Absorbees in CCS Amendment 2025

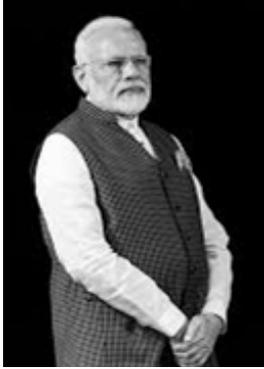
The Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare under the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions has notified an important amendment to the Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules, 2021. The notification, published in the Gazette of India on May 23, 2025, introduces a stricter provision under Rule 37(29)(c) of the CCS Pension Rules, aimed at curbing post-absorption misconduct.

What Has Changed?

The amendment clarifies and tightens the consequences for PSU employees who were earlier in government service and subsequently got absorbed into a PSU:

If such an employee is dismissed, removed, or retrenched from the PSU for any subsequent misconduct, their entire pensionary benefits for the past government service may also be forfeited. Additionally, such punitive actions taken by the PSU will now be subject to review by the administrative ministry concerned with the PSU.

This is a marked shift from earlier interpretations where pension benefits accrued during government service were generally considered protected even after absorption.



CHQ SEEKS INTERVENTION OF THE HON'BLE PRIME MINISTER

CHQ Letter dated 21/06/2025

To
Hon Prime Minister of India,
New Delhi.

Respected Prime Minister,

Sub: Pension Revision from 1/1/2017 to DoT employees absorbed in BSNL/MTNL as per 7th CPC fitment formula

We seek your kind help and intervention on the above subject and the above pensioner community trusts that you will help to resolve the above long pending issue sir.

- DoT employees were absorbed in BSNL/MTNL
- Their pay was paid by the respective PSU
- On retirement, their pension/family pension is regulated as per CCS (Pension) Rules and paid by the Government from Central Civil Estimate
- Pension contribution at the maximum of the pay-scale was paid by the PSU to Government
- Financial liability of the PSU has nothing to do with payment of pension/family pension
- Hence then Hon MoC Shri Ashwini Vaishnavji told us clearly that pay

revision and pension revision cannot go together because pension is paid by the Government

Department of Pension & Pensioners Welfare, particularly Secretary Shri V Srinivas is favourable but DoT has to send the proposal for the consideration of pension department which did not happen

We were forced to seek legal remedy and Hon PB, CAT, Delhi delivered a judgement directing DoT to treat the absorbed employees at par with Central Government employees and revise the pension strictly according to rules

But, DoT filed an appeal before Hon Delhi High Court which is pending

The total number of pensioners including family pensioners is only about four lakhs and there is no chance for the number to increase but only decrease in due course

Four lakh families are only having hope on you, sir, because you are the savior of pensioners.

Thanking you

Yours faithfully,

(V Vara Prasad)
General Secretary.



CHQ SEEKS INTERVENTION OF THE HON'BLE PRIME MINISTER

CHQ Letter dated 21/06/2025

To Hon Prime Minister of India,
New Delhi.

Respected Prime Minister,

Sub: Inclusion of pension revision of DoT employees absorbed in BSNL/MTNL in 'Terms of Reference' of 8th CPC

We seek your kind attention on the above subject for your benign consideration sir.

- The Cabinet under your stewardship announced the decision of the Government to appoint 8th Central Pay Commission to revise the pay/pension of Central Government employees/pensioners
- DoT employees absorbed in BSNL/MTNL are getting their pension/family pension from the budget of Central Government
- 100% liability of paying pension/family pension lies with the Government as per the decision of the Cabinet under your leadership
- Their retirement benefits are regulated in accordance with CCS (Pension) Rules which is at par with Central Government employees

- Most of the recommendations of 6th/7th CPC were made applicable to them except pension revision
- The absorbed employees of BSNL/MTNL are not eligible for CGHS benefits but after retirement they become eligible because they are getting pension from Central Civil Estimate
- At present there is no bench-mark or guidelines for revision of pension/family pension to absorbed employees
- Hence there is a need to include pension revision of BSNL/MTNL absorbed employees in the 8th CPC
- In this regard, submitted a memorandum in person to Hon Finance Minister
- Discussed and requested Secretary and Additional Secretary DoPT for inclusion

Since the Government may finalise the Terms of Reference of 8th CPC shortly, we seek your kind help sir.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

(V Vara Prasad),
General Secretary



PENSION REVISION An Optimistic Outlook and Overview

Brief history of Central Pay Commissions authored by our beloved shri P S Ramankutty published in March/April 2025 PP is informative and educative for many of us.

It is seen that, from First CPC in May 1946 to Seventh CPC of 2016, terms of reference, recommendations and acceptance differs, and no two CPCs are identical. Prevailing circumstances and strength of employees vis a vis government, and whims of the political dispensation was the determinant. It is also seen that pension revision could find a place in terms of reference from 4th CPC onwards, owing to the honble Supreme Court verdict in famous Nakara case. As there is no fixed template or statute for CPCs as yet, the forthcoming 8th CPC will be no different.

On the contrary, government is now armed with the draconian "Validation of CCS (Pension) Rules and principles for expenditure on pension liabilities from the consolidated fund of India" passed in parliament as part of finance bill on 25th March 2025. In simple terms, the existing pensioners of central government who retire before 1st Jan 2026, may not get revision of pension as the operationalization of the ensuing 8th CPC recommendations will be effective from or after 1.1.2026 at the pleasure of the govt. The audio clippings of our president Shri D Gopalakrishnan dt 23rd April 2025 and 25th May 2025 in this regard is well explained and crystal clear.

Nevertheless of this new contingency, our focus should remain on our own case fighting to get the pension revision as per 7th CPC formulae. WP filed by govt in Delhi HC where the 1st hearing took place on 5th April 2024, seen 17 adjournments as on 26th May 2025, and the next hearing scheduled on 29th July 2025.

Irrespective of the final outcome of the pending court case, the new validation rule should not come in the way of settling our case favorably, if the govt so desires and decides, because it is already implemented for all others, amounts to continuum of extending 7th CPC benefits for left over cases and filling gaps. For this reason, our leaders despite we being forced to resort to litigation, did not shed the path of persuasion (good will).

Our dynamic GS Varaprasad with his resourceful team R S N Murthy and others, is on constant vigil in finding new avenues of goodwill. I reiterate the appeal made by our President DG in Ahmedabad CWC, to tap the potential influencers among our countrywide fraternity, to catalyse the efforts of our goodwill mission.

Let us be optimistic about our RULERS also to understand that, "Heat in someone's thoughts, should not alter beat in many hearts".

M R PATNAIK, Vice President

News

RIGHT TO MEDICAL CARE IS FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT

Hindustan Times:7-6-2025

On 6th June 2025, the Bombay high court directed the central government to fully reimburse the medical expense of a pensioner who underwent heart transplant in a private hospital in 2019 as hospitals empanelled under CGHS could not provide him the required treatment. The court has granted four weeks to the central government to reimburse the full expenses. The pensioner, Anirudh Prataprai Nansi, voluntarily stepped down from central government services in 2008. In 2009, Nansi was diagnosed with Cardiomyopathy which aggravated in 2019 when the functioning of his heart's left ventricle significantly deteriorated to 15%, restricting smooth blood flow. Doctors advised Nansi for immediate heart transplant but as CGHS-empanelled government hospitals did not have the necessary license, approvals and expertise, he sought treatment at the privately owned Sir H. N. Reliance Foundation Hospital. Prior to the surgery, he notified CGHS authorities regarding the estimated cost.

After multiple follow ups, CGHS authorities responded to Nansi's reimbursement request in March 2021, stating that they could only provide an amount of ₹ 69,000 out of the total expense of ₹ 22 lakh, as per CGHS's Mumbai rate list.

Nansi approached the Bombay high court in 2021. The court appointed committee heard the case in November 2021 and opined that the full expense could not be reimbursed as it did not match CGHS rates. The committee

noted that since the heart transplantation was a planned surgery and not an emergency, the reimbursement should be done as per CGHS rules and guidelines. Nansi again approached the high court in 2022, citing violation of his fundamental right to life and pleading that the full expense be reimbursed to him as government hospitals lacked the required facilities.

On 6-6-2025, the division bench of justices G S Kulkarni and Advait Sethna observed that Nansi cannot be deprived of full reimbursement when he had to undergo treatment at a private hospital as the surgery had to be done immediately. In such cases of necessary treatment, the central government is obliged to grant reimbursement on a case to case basis, the court said.

Not granting full reimbursement is not only violative of the fundamental rights but strikes at the very root, purpose and essence of these basic human rights as guaranteed by the Constitution, i.e., Right to Life under Article 21. Any employee, merely because he has retired, ought not be differently treated when it comes to genuine and realistic health expenditure," the bench said.

Times of India: 5-6-2025

Punjab and Haryana high court has held that the right to life includes the right to medical facilities, and the denial of medical reimbursement violates Article 21 of the Constitution. Emphasising that medical bills must be processed and reimbursed promptly, the court observed that requiring an individual

to have their medical bills re-certified by the hospital or doctor, after they were already duly submitted, would constitute a grave injustice.

Justice Deepinder Singh Nalwa passed these orders while allowing a petition filed by Rajesh Kaushik, seeking directions to consider and release the medical reimbursement of over Rs 2.12 lakh along with interest, which was sanctioned via order dated Jan 9, 2014. He also sought directions to quash the letters by the department asking him to re-submit the verified bills after seven years of submitting the original ones.

The petitioner was an employee of PEPUS Road Transport Corporation, Nabha Road, Patiala. His wife got a knee transplant at Fortis Hospital, Mohali, on June 27, 2013.

Following this, the counsel for the petitioner, Vikas Chatrath, submitted that medical bills were duly submitted by the petitioner for the purpose of medical reimbursement.

Business Standard: 20-12-2024

On 18th December 2024, the Delhi High Court has ruled that government employees are entitled to medical reimbursement in an emergency, even if the treatment is at a hospital not empanelled under the CGHS.

Justice Jyoti Singh ruled that petitioner Seema Mehta (an employee of an aided school) could not locate a hospital empanelled under the CGHS. Given the life-threatening circumstances, the court held that she could not be denied reimbursement under the scheme. Mehta sought Rs. 585,523 as reimbursement for medical expenses incurred due to emergency brain surgery needed after a road accident. Despite submitting a claim for reimbursement to the Directorate of Education and the school, she was denied reimbursement on the grounds that the hospital was not empanelled under the CGHS. The HC observed that the State is under an obligation to ensure timely medical treatment to a person in need thereof.

A LETTER TO OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Mr. D. Gopalakrishnan ji,

Greetings from All India S30 Pensioners Association.

We have seen your video and heard audio tapes, summing up the grave situation arising out of the unprecedented step by the government of India amending CCS(Pension) Rules, surreptitiously through the Finance Act 2025. We are extremely grateful to you and AIBSNLPWA for your call for the unstinted support to the cause of our Association, which has been stabbed in the back by the unethical and unprincipled act on the part of Government of India, after dragging it painfully for over 16 years from PB CAT to DHC and ultimately Hon'ble Supreme Court. On the way we have lost 150 of our members and 90% of the surviving are post 80 years, large numbers incapacitated by age related issues. We are extremely grateful to you for summing up succinctly the issues involved in our struggle with the utmost empathy.

26-4-2025

P. C. Sharma, Secretary, AIS30PA.

NEWS THAT MATTERS

INCOME TAX RETURNS

The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has extended the due date for filing Income Tax Returns (ITRs) for Assessment Year (AY) 2025-26. The original deadline of July 31, 2025, has now been pushed to September 15, 2025, giving individuals and tax professionals more time to adjust to the sweeping changes introduced in this year's return formats.

Why the Deadline Has Been Extended

This year, Income Tax Return forms have been structurally and content-wise revamped with the goal of improving compliance, boosting transparency, and enabling precise reporting. However, these improvements have also meant that the Income Tax Department needed additional time to finalize and deploy the corresponding utility tools.

According to the official statement, the rollout of these new utilities and the subsequent system integration and testing are still in progress. As a result, many taxpayers and stakeholders found themselves grappling with a compressed window to file accurate returns, especially since TDS (Tax Deducted at Source) statements, which form a crucial part of ITRs, are only due by May 31, 2025. These TDS credits typically start reflecting in early June, leaving a narrow filing window.

A Step Towards Better Compliance

The CBDT emphasized that the extension is not merely procedural but essential. It aims to provide a "smooth and convenient filing experience" to taxpayers, while also ensuring the integrity of the return filing system. The move comes after stakeholders, including chartered accountants and industry bodies, raised concerns about the limited time available for filing under the newly formatted returns.

VERY POOR MEMORY

BSNL incurred a loss of Rs 1,757.56 crore as it failed to bill Reliance Jio for 10 years, starting from May 2014, for using its passive infrastructure. Additionally, BSNL did not deduct the required licence fee share from revenue paid to Telecom Infrastructure Providers and short-billed Rs 29 crore, including GST, due to non-adherence to the agreement terms.

The government suffered a loss of Rs 1,757.56 crore as state-owned telecom firm BSNL failed to bill Reliance Jio for 10 years since May 2014 as per their agreement on passive infrastructure sharing, Comptroller and Auditor General of India said on Tuesday. The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) in a statement said that BSNL incurred a loss of Rs 38.36 crore as it failed to deduct the share of licence fee from the revenue share paid to the Telecom Infrastructure Providers (TIPs).

"BSNL failed to enforce the Master Service Agreement (MSA) with M/s. Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd (RJIL) and did not bill for the additional technology used on BSNL's shared passive infrastructure, resulting in loss of Rs 1,757.76 crore and penal interest thereon, between May 2014 to March 2024 to the government exchequer," CAG said.

CAG also noted that there was a short billing of passive infrastructure sharing charge by BSNL. "Non-adherence to the terms and conditions laid down in the MSA with RJIL by BSNL and non-application of the escalation clause resulted in a loss of revenue of Rs 29 crore (including GST) towards infrastructure sharing charges," the statement said.

ALL INDIA BSNL PENSIONERS' WELFARE ASSOCIATION

(Regd T 1833/09)

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1-4-2024 TO 31-3-2025

RECEIPTS		PAYMENTS	
Opening Balance		Patrika printing	510988
With Bank	1327375	Parika Posting	190570
Cash on Hand	7057	Org. Tour	100195
		Audit Fees	43600
		Phone charges	2351
Interest from Bank Deposits	1885506	IT Solution (Website)	22298
CHQ Quota	1291000	Postage	5748
Received from Defunct COC	920	Stationery	5225
Journal Subscription	44200	Conveyance	19350
Misc. Receipts	30	Xerox/Misc	57
Legal Fund	11527722	Legal Exp	2355000
Maturity Vluue of FDRs	3500000	Editor Allowance	96000
Donation to CHQ	3000	Bank Charges	630
AP Flood Relief Receipts	1046169	AP Flood Relief	1146169
DLC Incentive received	122280	Donations	39400
		Kerala CMDRF	100000
		FD Reinvestment	11500000
		IncomeTax advance	50000
		CWC Patiala exp	376966
		RNI Exp	10000
		DLC Incentive to KTA	122280
		BPS affiliation	2000
		Closing balance	
		Bank	4043858
		Cash	12575
TOTAL	20755259	TOTAL	20755259

Vide our Report of Even Date.
For C R S & CO, Chartered Accountants.

Sd/-
(C R SWAMINATHAN)
M No. 025241
Chennai 19-5-2025

Sd/-
President

Sd/-
General Secretary

Sd/-
Treasurer

ALL INDIA BSNL PENSIONERS' WELFARE ASSOCIATION

(Regd T 1833/09)

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ending 31, March 2025

Expenditure	Amount in Rs.	Income	Amount in Rs.
Excess Income over exp.	1885506.00	FD Interest	1765155.00
		SB Interest	120351.00
TOTAL	1885506.00	TOTAL	1885506.00

ALL INDIA BSNL PENSIONERS' WELFARE ASSOCIATION

(Regd T 1833/09)

BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDING ON 31-3-2025

LIABILITIES		ASSETS	
Funds Net b/f	35144583.00	FIXED ASSETS	
		Computer	33126
		Less Dep@40%	13250
			19876.00
		Furniture:	20305
		Less Dep @!10%	2030
			18275.00
		CURRENT AS-SETS	31000000.00
		FD	
		IT advance tax	50000.00
		AY 25-26	4043858.00
		Cash in bank	12575.00
		cash on hand	
TOTAL	3,51,44,583.00	TOTAL	3,51,44,583.00

Vide our Report of Even Date.

For C R S & CO, Chartered Accountants.

Sd/-

(C R SWAMINATHAN)

M No. 025241

Chennai 19-5-12025

Sd/-

President

Sd/-

General Secretary

Sd/-

Treasurer

ALL INDIA BSNL PENSIONERS' WELFARE ASSOCIATION
(Regd T 1833/09)
FUNDS SCHEDULE FOR THE YEAR ending 31, March 2025

<u>EXPENSES</u>	Amount in Rs.	<u>MEMBERS' CONTRIBUTIONS</u>	
Patrika exp.	701558.00	Opening Balance a on 1-4-24	24487863.00
Tours and Travels	100195.00	Journal subscription	44200.00
Audit Fees	43600.00	Quota received	1291000.00
Bank charges	630.00	Donation	3000.00
IT solution	22298.00	Legal Fund contribution	11527722.00
Phone exp	2351.00	Misc.	30.00
Legal	2355000.00	Received from defunct CoC	920.00
Postage	5748.00	AP Flood relief receipts	1046169.00
Stationery	5225.00	DLC incentive	122280.00
Conveyance	19350.00	Excess of Income over Exp.	1885506.00
Misc.	57.00		
Editor Allowance	96000.00		
IT paid	100000.00		
CWC Patiala	376966.00		
Donations	39400.00		
Kerala CMDRF	100000.00		
AP Flood contribution	1146169.00		
Depreciation new PC	13250.00		
Depreciation Furniture	2030.00		
RNI Exp	10000.00		
DLC Incentive tfd	122280.00		
BPS Affiliation	2000.00		
Balance of Funds on 31-3-25	35144583.00		
TOTAL	40408690.00	TOTAL	40408690.00

For C R S & CO, Chartered Accountants.

Sd/-
(C R SWAMINATHAN)
Partner - M No. 025241
Chennai 19-5-2025

Sd/- Sd/- Sd/-
President General Secretary Treasurer

AUDITOR'S REPORT

To
The Members of ALL INDIA BSNL PENSIONERS' WELFARE ASSOCIATION

OPINION

We have audited the financial statements of **M/s. ALL INDIA BSNL PENSIONERS' WELFARE ASSOCIATION**, which comprise the Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2025 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, 2025 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).

Notes annexed to and forming part of the Balance Sheet as at 31st Mar 2025 and of the Income and Expenditure Account for the financial year ended that date

Significant Accounting Policies:

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 M/s.C R S & CO,
Chartered Accountants,
(FRN: 014392S)

Sd/-

(C.R.SWAMINATHAN)
Partner - M.No.025241

Chennai, 19th May, 2025

KERALA
CIRCLE CONFERENCE
OFFICE BEARERS ELECTED

Patrons: K T Ramanarayanan
M C Chacko
T Ramachandran

President: K Ravindran

Vice Presidents: Smt. Sugathakumari K
K M Joseph
K J Sebastian
K T Chandran
P V Raman
M P Krishnadasan
John Daniel
T Radhakrishnan
P M Damodaran

Circle Secretary: V Krishnaswami

Asst Circle Secretaries:
S Chandran
P K P Nair
Smt. Leelamma Baby
K K M Kaimal
A P Sudhakaran
P Appu
M Lohithakshan
A V Philipose
M Bhaskaran

Treasurer: K A Augustine
Asst. Treasurer: Smt. P N Sobha

Org. Secretaries: T P George
P G Raman
K Nagappan Nair
R Babu
N Chandrasekharan
Smt. P C Ammu
K Ramanan
C A Unnikrishnan Nair

Auditor: K Mohammad Kutty

AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION

In continuation of and in relation to my proposals, published in last issue of Patrika, I propose following amendment to Article 17

Existing :

17.Strength of the Governing Body: The minimum number of members in Governing Body at every level shall be fifteen and the maximum shall be **thirtyfive**. Secret ballot shall be mode of election in case of contest.

Proposed:

17.Strength of the Governing Body: The minimum number of members in Governing Body at every level shall be fifteen and the maximum shall be **fourty**. Secret ballot shall be mode of election in case of contest.

(proposed by P S Ramankutty)

SOME ISSUES DISCUSSED IN JCM STANDING COMMITTEE ON 1-5-2025

1. CGHS: Empanelment, Pensioner Access & Reimbursements

Persistent problems related to CGHS empanelment of hospitals, delays in reimbursement, and lack of cashless facilities for pensioners were raised. MoHFW committed to reviewing proposals and assured improved coordination between wellness centres and hospitals.

2. Notional Increment

The long-standing issue regarding the grant of notional increment to employees retiring a day before their increment date remains under review. The Department of Expenditure has sought legal opinion on the matter.

PUNJAB CIRCLE
OFFICE BEARERS
ELECTED

President	Sant Singh
Sr V. President	Shingara Singh Dhillon
V.President	J S VIRK
V President	Indejit Singh
V.President	Devinder Kumar
V.President	Chanda Ram
Circle Secretary	G.S.Bajwa
Astt C. S.	Raj Kumar. Saini
Astt C. S.	Parlad Singh
Astt C. S.	Sawtantar Kumar
Astt C. S.	Chanan Ram
Astt C. S.	Sh.S.D.Saini
Astt C. S.	K.S.GILL
Astt C. S.	Rajinder Sachdeva
Treasurer	R K Sharma
Astt Treasurer	R S Gupta
Org. Secretary	J S Sandhu
Org. Secretary	Mukesh Lata
Org. Secretary	Jatinder Singh
Org. Secretary	Gurmeet Singh
Org. Secretary	Amarjit Singh
Org. Secretary	V K Gupta
Org. Secretary	O P Chaudhary
Auditor	S L Tyal

CHENNAI CIRCLE
OFFICE BEARERS
ELECTED

President	M. Munuswamy .
V. President	M. Govindarajan
V.President	S. Srinivasan
V President	U. Palani
V.President	M. Ranganathan .
V.President	S. Ambujavalli .
V.President	Sambasivam
V.President	K. Shanmugasundaram
V.President	P. Ganapathy
V.President	N. Gengesan
Circle Secretary	C. Olly
Astt C. S.	S. Thangaraj
Astt C. S.	M. Kannappan..
Astt C. S.	R. Pandian
Astt C. S.	A. Subramanian
Astt C. S.	J. Rajendran
Astt C. S.	A. Manoharan
Astt C. S.	R. Anjanavanan
Astt C. S.	M. Nagarajan
Astt C. S.	C. Rajamohan
Treasurer	R.Gunasekaran
Astt Treasurer	K.M.Raja
Org. Secretary	B. Narayanamurthy
Org. Secretary	B. Baktavatchalam
Org. Secretary	S. Ravikumar
Org. Secretary	M. Chandrababu
Org. Secretary	R.Ramamurthy
Org. Secretary	V. Devan
Org. Secretary	M. Gunasekaran
Org. Secretary	R. Gopalan



CHENNAI TD CIRCLE CONFERENCE: 28-4-2025
Com. DG and Com. Vara Prasad addressing



CHENNAI TD CIRCLE CONFERENCE: 28-4-2025
A view of the Delegates

PENSIONERS PATRIKA

JULY - AUGUST, 2025

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KERALA CIRCLE CONFERENCE: 17-5-2025
A view of the Delegates



KERALA CIRCLE CONFERENCE: 17-5-2025
GS Com. Vara Prasad inaugurates

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