

Resolution on Pension Revision

Taking into consideration of the views expressed by CWC members, the Central Working Committee of All India BSNL Pensioners' Welfare Association held at Patiala, Punjab, on 11th & 12th September 2024 under the presidentship of Shri D Gopalakrishnan appreciates the CHQ for taking earnest efforts for achieving the pension revision as per the direction of Ahmedabad CWC.

The CWC records its sincere appreciation and thanks to all members who responded magnificently for the call given by CHQ for legal fund. No other organization can even dream of such a huge response.

The CWC also wholeheartedly appreciate the sister organizations like DoT/BSNL Pensioners' Association, Kerala, AFSOA, Hyderabad, Bengaluru and some other organizations who voluntarily contributed to our legal fund. It is nothing but a recognition of our sincere efforts to achieve the pension revision on a principle that ensures permanent solution.

The CWC unanimously decided and directed the CHQ

- To pursue the legal battle and take it to its logical end
- To continue the steps for political intervention for securing pension revision on the basis of 7th CPC fitment factor which would be a permanent solution
- To continue the efforts with DoT for implementation of PB, CAT judgement and request DoT to give-up its negative attitude in the interest of pensioners who served Telecom Department and built the strong infrastructure
- To give a call for agitation, in the event of a favourable judgement from Delhi High Court and if DoT refuse to honour the constitutional court order

Resolution on Notional Increment

On the day of retirement, those who have completed 365 days from the date of last increment, are entitled for one 'Notional increment' according to various judgements delivered by different Tribunals, Karnataka High Court, and even by the Apex Court. PB, CAT, Delhi pronounced an order on 30/5/2024 (in OA No.1304/2024) directing the respondents to re-fix the retiral dues, including pension of the applicants by giving them the benefit of one notional increment on the date of their retirement within a period of 12 weeks and release the arrears expeditiously.

The order of Karnataka High Court was challenged before the Apex Court which was dismissed. Review Petitions were also dismissed by the Hon Supreme Court more than once. Hence it is a settled law.

Still DoPT has not issued a general order though some departments have taken decisions to grant the 'Notional increment' to the applicants which were not uniform.

CHQ wrote a detailed letter on 17/1/2024 and 8/7/2024 requesting to implement the judgement atleast to the applicants but there was no response from DoT.

The Central Working Committee of All India BSNL Pensioners' Welfare Association held at Patiala, Punjab, on 11th & 12th September 2024 under the presidentship of Shri D Gopalakrishnan requests DoPT to immediately issue a general order to grant 'Notional increment' to all those eligible pensioners without forcing them to approach the courts and waste their hard-earned money.

Resolution on Restoration of Commutation

Commutated value of pension is restored after 15 years on the basis of an order pronounced by Hon Supreme Court in 1986. Much water has flown under the bridge during these 38 years.

5th CPC (implemented from 1/1/1996) under the chairmanship of Justice Rathnavel Pandian recommended for restoration of commutation after 12 years but the Government did not accepted it.

Life Expectancy as per WHO statistics is 77 years for Govt. employees

2nd National Judicial Pay Commission (Part III) under Justice P V Reddy appointed by Hon Supreme Court in 2021 has recommended for restoration after 12 years (Page 88 – 112) –

State Governments like Kerala, MP, OR, AP are restoring it after 12 years, Gujarat, from 24/9/2022 restored after 13 years.

Interest on investments has come down which is given hereunder:

	1/1/06	1/1/16	1/1/22
PPF Interest	8%	8.1%	7.1%
SCSS	9.2%	8.6%	7.4%
NSC	11.5%	8.1%	6.8%

Commutation amount with 8% interest is recovered within 11 years

Before 1/1/2006 C/factor at the age of 61 was 9.81

After 1/1/2006 it is 8.194

So, reduction is 16.5% ($9.81 - 8.194 = 1.616 / 9.81 \times 100 = 16.5\%$)

Interest on CVP is recoverable in 2.6 years

So, $8.194 + 2.66 = 10.85$ years

On the basis of Punjab & Haryana High Court judgement, State Governments of Punjab & Haryana issued orders to stop recovery beyond 128 months. In the light of above factors, The Central Working Committee of All India BSNL Pensioners' Welfare Association held at Patiala, Punjab, on 11th & 12th September 2024 under the presidentship of Shri D Gopalakrishnan requests the Government to immediately issue an order for restoration of commutation after 12 years and stop recovery from those who have already paid back in 128 months. The CWC also requests the Government to consider refunding the excess amount collected beyond 12 years.

The CWC directs all Circle Secretaries to collect relevant data from our members by 31st December 2024 and forward the information to the General Secretary.

At least two members or leaders from Delhi or surrounding areas, who come forward to handle this issue meticulously , will be assigned the responsibility of consulting a suitable lawyer . The aim is to explore the possibility of filing a case in the Principle Bench of the Central Administrative Tribunal (PB CAT), Delhi. The case should be filled on behalf of the affected members, and these representatives whill be responsible for pursuing the matter until a final order is granted.

Resolution on Crediting Pension on the last day of the Month

Before introduction of 'Sampann' and direct payment by DoT, pensioners were getting the pension credited to their account, whether bank or post office, well before the last day of the month or atleast on the last day of the month except for the month of March.

But recently, for the past three months, pensioners in many circles are not getting their pension credited to their account on the last day of the month. 2024 August pension was credited only on 3rd September to some pensioners/family pensioners. Non-credit of pension on the last day of the month, (as per existing rules), creates lot of tension and anxiety to the pensioners and family pensioners.

Some banks credit the pension very late; in the same bank some branches credit the pension with a delay of more than 8 to 10 hours. Nobody was able to explain the real reason for the delay except saying that there is a technical hitch. In this digital world, it is possible to transfer and credit the amount to pensioners' account within few minutes.

Out of frustration many pensioners ask for earlier system of payment through CPPC and post offices. It is understood that centralization may be a reason.

The Central Working Committee of All India BSNL Pensioners' Welfare Association held at Patiala, Punjab, on 11th & 12th September 2024 under the presidentship of Shri D Gopalakrishnan requests Controller General of Communication, Accounts to take necessary action for ensuring payment of pension on the last day of the month henceforth. It also requests Department of pension to monitor the payment.

Resolution on 8th Central Pay Commission

The Government announced constitution of 7th Central Pay Commission in September 2013. Gazette Notification was issued on 28/2/2014 constituting it under the chairmanship of Justice Ashok Kumar Mathur.

7th CPC submitted its recommendations to the Government on 19/11/2015. Accepting the recommendations, Government issued orders on 4/8/2016. The same was implemented w.e.f. 1/1/2016.

It has become a 'norm' to revise the pay/pension every ten years from 1986 onwards. So, the next revision is due from 1/1/2026. The pay commission may take atleast two years to submit its recommendations. So, it is high time that Government constitute 8th Central Pay Commission at the earliest.

The absorbed BSNL/MTNL employees, on retirement, are getting pension from Central Civil Estimate like Central Government pensioners. Their retirement benefits are at par with Central Government pensioners. They are also covered under CCS (Pension) Rules, 2021 (earlier 1972) akin to Central Government pensioners.

The Central Working Committee of All India BSNL Pensioners' Welfare Association held at Patiala, Punjab, on 11th & 12th September 2024 under the presidentship of Shri D Gopalakrishnan requests the Government to constitute 8th Central Pay Commission at the earliest and include the absorbed BSNL/MTNL employees in the 'eligibility list' of terms of reference for the purpose of revision of pension.

RESOLUTION ON DEVASTATION DUE TO FLASH FLOODS IN CITIES OF VIJAYAWADA AND GUNTUR

The Central Working Committee (CWC) of the All India BSNL Pensioners' Welfare Association, convened in Patiala on September 11th and 12th, 2024, acknowledges the severe impact of the recent flooding in Andhra Pradesh. This disaster, which began with intense monsoon rains at the end of August 2024 has caused widespread devastation in areas of Vijayawada and Guntur. The flooding has severely affected approximately 450,000 people, with significant damage to property and infrastructure, including the homes of many of our BSNL retirees.

In response to this unprecedented calamity, the CWC resolves to authorize the Central Head Quarters (CHQ) to issue an appeal to all Circles for flood relief donations.

All Circles requested to collect contributions from their members and send the collected funds to the CHQ account by October 31, 2024.

The CWC also directs the CHQ to consolidate all donations received and transfer the total amount to the Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister's Relief Fund. Following the donation collection period, the CHQ will endeavor to present the total amount to the Chief Minister within the subsequent 15 days.

By authorizing this appeal, the CWC reaffirms its commitment to supporting the relief efforts and helping the flood-affected communities recover from this disaster.

Resolution on organization

AIBSNLPWA is the largest, vibrant organization in Telecom. Our paid-up membership has crossed 77,000, thanks to all cadres and leaders at all levels. It has a very sound financial position. The reasons, for this, are mainly maintaining 'Rainbow' character, democratic functioning, transparent account maintenance, responsive approach to individual problems. This organization has got the character of social-responsibility. Whenever CHQ or Circle gives a call for donation to help the people at large due to natural calamity, the members' response was magnificent. The recent example was Wayanad tragedy; within a short duration more than 50 lakhs was donated to Kerala CMDRF.

Five digit membership is only in three circles, that too from the south. Tamilnadu circle continue to occupy the first position. There are improvements in some circles like Gujarat, Maharastra in west, UP West, Punjab in the north. New circle is formed in Himachal. But there is stagnation in some circles.

Kerala shows the way of holding virtual CEC once in two months and physical CEC once in 6 months as per constitutional provision. The circle monitors the District accounts as per constitutional provisions ensuring financial discipline which is one of the core principles of AIBSNLPWA. To expand the involvement of more members and to extend grass-root democratic functioning, Kerala opened many branches. Other circles should also think of following such kind of action for enlarging our base.

The Central Working Committee of All India BSNL Pensioners' Welfare Association held at Patiala, Punjab, on 11th & 12th September 2024 under the presidentship of Com D Gopalakrishnan requests all the District Units to fix a target for membership enrollment and achieve the target before the next AIC.

Resolution thanking Punjab Circle

The Central Working Committee of All India BSNL Pensioners' Welfare Association held at Patiala, Punjab, on 11th & 12th September 2024 under the presidentship of Shri D Gopalakrishnan whole-heartedly congratulate the Punjab Circle, particularly comrades from Patiala, for holding the CWC in a grand manner.

The arrangements, food, accommodation etc. are very good. The CWC expresses its profound thanks and congratulate them all who made this event a memorable one.