



## Editorial

### REVISION OF IDA PAY SCALES OF BSNL EXECUTIVES

In the background of unending confusion being created by some people about revision of IDA pay scales of the BSNL executives, we are again coming out with yet another editorial on the same issue to straighten a few points. In fact for the last few months, this issue remained the subject matter of our series of editorials. We understand the concerns of the BSNL IDA pensioners, since their pension revision is solely dependent on the IDA pay scale revision of BSNL executives. Quite naturally, they get easily carried out by any unfounded negative story and become panicky. Recently a letter from DOT to an Association, in the background of the affordability clause of DPE Order on pay scale revision, pointed out that BSNL Executives do not qualify to get pay scale revision. One can hardly blame DOT for this and come to the conclusion that DOT has rejected the pay scale revision. It is a hard fact that if we go strictly by the 3rd PRC recommendations, the BSNL executives do not qualify to get pay scale revision right at this moment because of the 'affordability' clause finding mention in the PRC Report and also in the subsequent DPE OM. But this is not a new development and even in 2<sup>nd</sup> PRC Report, such condition was imposed. But this did not deter DOT ultimately to allow revision of IDA pay scales to the MTNL Executives with highest fitment benefit- even though MTNL had been incurring huge loss in its business for last several years. Moreover, at the time DoT wrote the said letter, no official proposal on pay scale revision from BSNL was

received by DOT and without examining the same, DOT cannot come to the final conclusion on pay scale revision. Therefore, one has to take the contents of the said letter as a stock reply and no importance can be attached to it. We all knew that BSNL was to send the detailed proposal to DOT for pay scale revision which was then under process. In BSNL, the said proposal also could cross three barriers in quick succession. The Internal Committee of senior Officers, BSNL Management Committee and Remuneration Committee – all cleared the proposal with no time. The said proposal reportedly also speaks about how BSNL will manage the additional expenditure on account of pay revision. This is an important part of the proposal and BSNL is said to have convincingly projected the financial aspect of the case. It is now said that even the BSNL Board, in its meeting held on 24.10.2017, has cleared the proposal. Now the ball will be in DOT's court. PSU Section and DOT's own Internal Finance Unit will have to process the case. But let us not expect easy and early clearance of the proposal by these Sections- especially the Internal Finance. There may be number of queries and exchange of communications between DOT and BSNL. But we have every reasons to believe that BSNL is well equipped to reply the possible queries that may be raised – at least on this all-important issue. Given the optimistic views of BSNL CMD and the comments made on number of occasions even by MOSC on pay revision issue, which are available in public domain, we

find no reason to be pessimistic. Let us again remember that despite availability of similar negative affordability condition in the 2nd PRC Report, the Executives of chronic loss making MTNL too were granted pay revision with 30% fitment benefit. In fact, on financial front even now BSNL certainly is in a far better position. Moreover, while ordering payment of pension to the MTNL employees by the Government in the year 2013, it was decided by the Government itself that during implementation of 3<sup>rd</sup> PRC recommendations, the pay scales of the MTNL employees will be brought at the level of pay scales of BSNL employees. This will be possible only by giving the benefits of 3<sup>rd</sup> PRC recommended pay scales to the BSNL

Executives and thus by upward revision of their pay scales. Therefore, there is no reason to create negative sentiments right at this moment. This may be counterproductive and have adverse impact on the BSNL's efforts to stage a comeback on financial position. Some may use this as an opportunity to march over the others and claim that it was their lead role which paved the way for pay revision. But this will not help the cause at all. Let no one play with this vital issue for pay revision which is having a bearing on pension revision of past pensioners as well. All efforts, instead, should be channelized to put pressure on DOT for early clearance of the proposal. Let no politics be played on this all-important issue.

## **RESPONSE TO AIBSNLREA'S REPRESENTATION**

**PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE FORWARDS THE REPRESENTATION DATED 03.10.2017, URGING TO ALLOW THE BENEFIT OF FIXATION OF PENSION ON LAST PAY DRAWN OR AVERAGE OF LAST 10 MONTHS PAY WHICHEVER IS BENEFICIAL TO THE RETIREES COMPLETING 20 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE PAST PENSIONERS RETIRED PRIOR TO 01.01.2006, TO THE SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF PENSION AND PENSIONERS' WELFARE:** AIBSNLREA had earlier represented to the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India with copy endorsed to S/Shri Arun Jaitely, Union Finance Minister, Thawar Chand Gehlot, Minister of Social Justice & Empowerment, Dr Jitendra Singh, MOS(PP) and C.Viswanath, Secretary (Pension), DOP&PW to allow the benefit, as contained at Para 5.2 of DOP&PW OM No. 38/37/08-P&PW(A) dated 02.09.2008 which reads as follows:-"Linkage of full pension with 33 years of qualifying service shall be dispensed with. Once a Government servant has rendered the minimum quantity of service of twenty years, pension shall be paid at 50% of the emoluments or average emoluments received during last 10 months, whichever is more beneficial to him", to the past pensioners retired prior to 1.1.2006 [View posting dated 03.10.2017 in this website to read the representation]. The PMO has now forwarded the said representation to the Secretary, Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare for action as appropriate. [View posting dated 11.10.2017 in this website to read the PMO letter](#)

## **ISSUES TAKEN UP**

**AIBSNLREA ADDRESSES ADVISER (FINANCE), DOT REGARDING PENDING PENSION REVISION CASES IN KERALA CIRCLE – TAKES UP THE CASES OF S/SHRI N BHASKARAN, RETD DGM AND M SANKARAN, RETD AGM:** AIBSNLREA has addressed a letter to Adviser (Finance) regarding the large number of pending cases for issue of Revised PPOs in the office of CCA, Kerala Circle. It also takes up the cases of S/Shri N Bhaskaran, Retd DGM and M Sankaran, Retd AGM whose revised PPOs are not issued despite their individual representations to CCA, Kerala Circle presenting the facts of their cases. [View posting dated 24.10.2017 in this website to read the letter](#)

**AIBSNLREA MAKES ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO GET THE BENEFIT OF FIXATION OF PENSION ON LAST PAY DRAWN OR AVERAGE OF LAST 10 MONTHS PAY WHICHEVER IS BENEFICIAL TO THE RETIREES COMPLETING 20 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE PAST PENSIONERS RETIRED PRIOR TO 01.01.2006:** Department of Pension & Pensioners Welfare vide its OM No. 38/37/08-P&PW(A) dated 02.09.2008 at Para 5.2 had ordered as follows :- “Linkage of full pension with 33 years of qualifying service shall be dispensed with. Once a Government servant has rendered the minimum quantity of service of twenty years, pension shall be paid at 50% of the emoluments or average emoluments received during last 10 months, whichever is more beneficial to him”. But these Orders were made effective only from 1.1.2006. Thus the past pensioners who retired prior to 1.1.2006 have been discriminated against. Earlier the issue was taken up by the Association. But it was not agreed to by Department of Expenditure. Now the Association has again taken up the matter and has addressed a letter to the Hon’ble Prime Minister of India with copy endorsed to S/Shri Arun Jaitely, Union Finance Minister, Thawar Chand Gehlot, Minister of Social Justice & Empowerment, Dr Jitendra Singh, MOS(PP) and C.Viswanath, Secretary (Pension), DOP&PW. . [View posting dated 03.10.2017 in this website to read the letter](#)

## **GOVERNMENT/BSNL ORDERS**

**REVISION OF IDA W.E.F. 1.10.2017 IN CPSEs WHERE LAST PAY REVISION WAS IMPLEMENTED W.E.F. 01.01.2007:** DPE has issued orders revising IDA w.e.f 1.10.2017 from 119% to 124.3% for CPSEs where last pay revision was implemented w.e.f. 1.1.2007. [View posting dated 08.10.2017 in this website to read the DPE Order](#)

**REVISION OF IDA W.E.F. 1.10.2017 WHERE LAST PAY REVISION WAS IMPLEMENTED W.E.F. 01.01.1997:** DPE has issued orders revising IDA w.e.f 1.10.2017 from 269.7% to 278.7% for CPSEs where last pay revision was implemented w.e.f. 1.1.1997. [View posting dated 08.10.2017 in this website to read the DPE Order](#)

## **BRANCHES IN ACTION**

**REPRESENTATIVES OF AIBSNLREA, EAST VIDARBHA BRANCH VISIT CCA OFFICE, NAGPUR:** Shri P R Bhujbal, CHQ Vice President along with S/Shri Arun Deshpande Branch Secretary B P Mazumdar, Finance Secretary of AIBSNLREA, Nagpur Branch visited CCA Office at Nagpur on 10.10.2017 and met Shri Lende, CAO (Pension) Mumbai. Left out IDA pension revision cases of the BSNL pensioners retired prior to 10-06-2013, pending in the offices of CCA Nagpur and CCA Mumbai, were brought to his notice for expeditious solution. It was also pointed out that in few cases, revised PPOs (non-payable copy) have been received by the pensioners, but banks are not in receipt of payable copies of PPO resulting in inordinate delay in receiving pension arrears. The representatives of the Association requested the CAO, Mumbai to pay special attention on such identified cases. Cases for revision of Provisional pension with 78.2% IDA benefit for Chandrapur SSA was also raised and these were reported to be pending for vigilance clearance from competent authority and also sanction by GMTD Chandrapur.

**GB MEETING OF PALAKKAD BRANCH OF AIBSNLREA HELD:** A General Body Meeting of Palakkad Branch of AIBSNLREA was conducted at Top in Town, Palakkad on 10.10.2017. Fifty members attended the meeting. Detailed discussions took place mainly on three issues viz Payment of arrears on 78.2% IDA merger, Payment of Medical Allowance and Legal action for achieving past arrears. Regarding IDA merger arrears, even though almost all got the arrears, some are still anxiously waiting for the same. In few cases, CCA has withheld processing on the ground that how could Increment be drawn on same scales two times in a year i.e. on regular promotion and thereafter on TBP falling in one fiscal year or vice versa. As regards

payment of Medical Allowance, only 5 or 6 of the members got the payment for only one quarter. The anomaly in the entitled amount for payment was discussed in detail and a few suggestions also emerged to overcome the problem. Regarding contribution to legal fund, many members contributed in the meeting itself and these amount along with future contribution will be remitted to CHQ soon. The meeting came to a close at 13-30 hrs and the members disbursed after the Lunch was served.

**GENERAL BODY MEETING OF AMBALA BRANCH OF AIBSNLREA:** A General Body Meeting of Ambala Branch of AIBSNLREA was held on 4.10.2017 under the chairmanship of Shri P.C Chauhan, President of the Branch. 35 members attended the meeting. Shri J C Gupta, Branch secretary briefed the members on various issues regarding implementation of 3rd PRC for BSNL pensioners, He also informed about the efforts of our HQ regarding seeking of legal remedy on payment of pay /pension arrears which have not been paid by the Govt./BSNL after granting fitment benefit with 78.2% IDA w.e.f 1.1.2007. All the pensioners have been denied the arrears of pay/pension/retirement benefits to different extents depending upon their date of retirement. A sum of Rs. 17000/- was collected from the members towards the legal fund to fight the case. One new member joined the Association as life member.

**MUMBAI BRANCH OF AIBSNLREA HELD ITS CONFERENCE:** Mumbai Branch held its Conference on 22.09.2017 at 11:15 hours in the Conference Hall, Fountain Telecom Building, Mumbai. There was very good gathering instead of heavy rain & interrupted train services. President Shri K.R. Gupta welcomed all the members and requested the members to observe 2 minutes silence in memory of the departed members. After self-introduction by the members, Secretary Shri S.P.Varma read out the minutes of last General body meeting which was passed unanimously. He informed the house about all the issues discussed in State Executive Committee meeting held at Shegaon on 12<sup>th</sup> sept 2017. He discussed in detail about the action taken by the Association on pay/pension arrears issue and requested the members to contribute for seeking legal remedy on pay/pension arrears issue and also donate AIBSNLREA CHQ. He welcomed Shri Vasudeva, State President and Shri R. Jeyram, DGM Mtce Mumbai for attending meeting. Shri Vasudeva addressed the house and informed in detail about the deliberations in the last State Executive Committee meeting and also 3<sup>rd</sup> Pay Revision Committee recommendations. He also gave a few tips for yoga. Afterwards, the old body was dissolved and Shri Vasudeva was nominated to conduct the election of new Branch Office bearers. Following were elected unanimously for various posts:- President:- Shri U.A. Tiwari, Vice Presidents: Shri N. K. Devassy and Smt Vijayalekshmi Menon, Branch Secretary: Shri S P Varma, Jt Secretaries: S/Shri S.R. Yadav and Smt.Raji Radhakrishnan, Finance Secretary: Shri S.N. Varma, Executives: S/Shri A.B. Ansari, Mrs. Padmavathi Madhur and Shri V.R. Monkikar, Internal Auditor:- Miss Jyoti Shah.

## **STATEMENT OF AMOUNT RECEIVED DURING OCTOBER 2017**

**S/Shri K V Subba Rao, Retd DE & L S Rao, Retd DE from Hyderabad** have deposited Rupees One thousand (Rs. 1000/-) only in the S/B account of CHQ on 31/10/2017 for Life membership of the Association.

**Shri Sudhendu Biswas, Retd TS & Life Member, West Bengal State Branch** has deposited Rupees five hundred (Rs. 500/-) only in the Savings Bank Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 27/10/2017 as contribution for seeking legal remedy on pay/pension arrears issue.

**Amravati Branch (Maharashtra State)** has deposited Rupees three thousand five hundred (Rs.3500/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 27/10/2017 as contribution to seek legal remedy on pay/pension arrears.

**Allahabad Branch (UP State)** has deposited Rupees one thousand five hundred (Rs.1500/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 27/10/2017 as contribution to seek legal remedy on pay/pension arrears collected from 3 members.

**Allahabad Branch (UP State)** has deposited Rupees two hundred (Rs.200/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Syndicate on 27/10/2017 as quota for 1 new Life Member.

**East Vidarbha Branch, Nagpur Maharashtra State)** has deposited Rupees thirty two thousand two hundred (Rs.32200/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Syndicate on 27/10/2017 as contribution (Rs 13000/- only) to seek legal remedy on pay/pension arrears issue and donation on receiving pension arrears (Rs 19200/-) only).

**East Vidarbha Branch, Nagpur (Maharashtra State)** has deposited Rupees two hundred (Rs.200/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Syndicate on 27/10/2017 as quota for 1 new Life Member.

**Shri Sujay Biswas** has deposited Rupees five hundred (Rs. 500/-) only in the Savings Bank Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 27/10/2017 as contribution for seeking legal remedy on pay/pension arrears issue.

**Shri T Rajendran, Retd CAO from Chennai** has deposited Rupees five hundred (Rs. 500/-) only in the Savings Bank Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 27/10/2017 as contribution for seeking legal remedy on pay/pension arrears issue.

**West Bengal State Branch** has deposited Rupees twenty five thousand (Rs.25000/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 26/10/2017 as contribution to seek legal remedy on pay/pension arrears.

**Madurai Branch (Tamilnadu State)** has deposited Rupees two thousand five hundred (Rs.2500/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 24/10/2017 as contribution to seek legal remedy on pay/pension arrears collected from 5 members.

**Shri Suhas D Buddhisagar, Retd EE from Nasik** has deposited Rupees five hundred (Rs. 500/-) only in the Savings Bank Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 20/10/2017 as contribution for seeking legal remedy on pay/pension arrear issue.

**Shri N V Subramanya. Retd DGM (F) from Bangaluru** has deposited Rupees five hundred (Rs. 500/-) only in the Savings Bank Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 20/10/2017 as contribution for seeking legal remedy on pay/pension arrear issue.

**Shri S Sampath, Retd DGM, TN Circle from Chennai** has deposited Rupees five hundred (Rs. 500/-) only in the Savings Bank Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 19/10/2017 as contribution for seeking legal remedy on pay/pension arrears issue.

**Palakkad Branch (Kerala State)** has deposited Rupees twenty thousand (Rs.20000/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 19/10/2017 as contribution to seek legal remedy on pay/pension arrears collected from 40 members.

**Varanasi Branch (UP State)** has deposited Rupees two thousand (Rs.2000/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 16/10/2017 as contribution to seek legal remedy on pay/pension arrears collected from 4 members.

**Indore Branch (MP State)** has deposited Rupees one thousand two hundred (Rs.1200/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Karur Vyasya Bank on 16/10/2017 as quota for 6 new Life Members.

**Indore Branch (MP State)** has deposited Rupees eight thousand five hundred (Rs.8500/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 16/10/2017 as contribution to seek legal remedy on pay/pension arrears collected from 17 members.

**Smt P Saraswati, Retd SDE from Chennai** has deposited Rupees five hundred (Rs. 500/-) only in the Savings Bank Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 15/10/2017 as donation for future actions.

**Smt P Saraswati, Retd SDE from Chennai** has deposited Rupees one thousand (Rs. 1000/-) only in the Savings Bank Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 15/10/2017 as contribution for seeking legal remedy on pay/pension arrear issue.

**Shri Ashok Kumar Gupta, Retired AGM, BSNL Corporate Office from Ghaziabad** has deposited Rupees One thousand fifty (Rs. 1050/-) only on 13.10.2017 to enroll as Life Member of the Association (Rs. 550/- ) and contribution to seek legal remedy on pay/pension arrears issue.

**Allahabad Branch (UP State)** has deposited Rupees two hundred (Rs. 200/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 10/10/2017 as quota for 1 new Life Member.

**Allahabad Branch (UP State)** has deposited Rupees one thousand five hundred (Rs.1500/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 10/10/2017 as contribution to seek legal remedy on pay/pension arrears.

**Shri C Sivalingam, Retd EE(Civil) from Chennai** has deposited Rupees five hundred (Rs. 500/-) only in the Savings Bank Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 10/10/2017 as contribution for seeking legal remedy on pay/pension arrear issue.

**Mumbai Branch (Maharashtra State)** has sent Cheque dated 26/09/2017 for Rupees three thousand (Rs. 3000/-) only towards donation on receiving pension arrears. The cheque has since been credited in the S/B account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 09/10/2017.

**Mumbai Branch (Maharashtra State)** has sent Cheque dated 26/09/2017 for Rupees eight thousand (Rs 8000/-) only towards contribution to seek legal remedy on pay/pension arrears. The cheque has since been credited in the S/B account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 09/10/2017.

**Ambala Branch (Haryana State)** has deposited Rupees seventeen thousand two hundred (Rs. 17200/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 09/10/2017 as contribution (Rs. 17000/-) to seek legal remedy on pay/pension arrears issue collected from 34 members and quota (Rs. 200/-) for 1 new Life Member.

**Shri Surjit Singh, Retd DE & Life Member of Sangrur Branch (Punjab State)** has deposited Rupees five hundred (Rs. 500/-) only in the Savings Bank Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 07/10/2017 as contribution for seeking legal remedy on pay/pension arrears issue.

**Gorakhpur Branch (UP State)** has deposited Rupees two thousand four hundred (Rs. 2400/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 05/10/2017 as quota for 12 new Life Members.

**Gorakhpur Branch (UP State)** has deposited Rupees one thousand five hundred (Rs.1500/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 05/10/2017 as contribution for seeking legal remedy on pay/pension arrears issue.

**Coimbatore Branch (Tamilnadu State)** has deposited Rupees five hundred (Rs. 500/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 05/10/2017 as contribution to seek legal remedy on pay/pension arrears issue collected from 1 member.

**Jabalpur Branch (MP State)** has deposited Rupees ten thousand (Rs. 10000/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 04/10/2017 as contribution (Rs. 9000/-) to seek legal remedy on pay/pension arrears issue collected from 18 members and quota (Rs. 1000/-) for 5 new Life Members.

**Bhatinda Branch (Punjab State)** has deposited Rupees ten thousand seven hundred (Rs. 10700/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 04/10/2017 as contribution (Rs. 7500/-) to seek legal remedy on pay/pension arrears issue collected from 15 members and quota (Rs. 3200/- for 16 new Life Members.

**Jabalpur Branch (MP State)** has deposited Rupees ten thousand (Rs. 10000/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 03/10/2017 as contribution to seek legal remedy on pay/pension arrears issue collected from 20 members.

**Ballia Branch (UP State)** has deposited Rupees two thousand (Rs. 2000/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 03/10/2017 as contribution to seek legal remedy on pay/pension arrears issue collected from 4 members.

**Lucknow Branch (UP State)** has deposited Rupees one thousand (Rs. 1000/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 03/10/2017 as contribution to seek legal remedy on pay/pension arrears issue collected from 2 members.

**Shri K V Subbarao, Retd DE from Hyderabad** has deposited Rupees one thousand (Rs. 1000/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 03/10/2017 as contribution to seek legal remedy on pay/pension arrears issue.

**East Godavari Branch (AP State)** has deposited Rupees twenty five thousand (Rs. 25000/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Syndicate Bank on 03/10/2017 as contribution to seek legal remedy on pay/pension arrears issue.

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**Edited and published by Shri S Basu, General Secretary, AIBSNLREA**