



Editorial

NEW YEAR 2023 – RESOLVE TO BE HAPPY

We are once again at the beginning of another New Year. It is natural that every year, we expect the New Year to be better than the previous years, though we know that every year leaves marks of both ups and downs in our lives. But the dawn of the New Year certainly brings in new hopes. Many of us even take New Year Pledges to improve our lives and strive to stick to it. It is another thing that how long we are able to stick to it. But still, we want to try something new and to start with a clean slate.

New Year resolutions can be anything from getting up early in the morning, going for walk, doing some exercise, quitting some bad habit, stopping consuming sweets, reducing screen time and so on. All these resolutions are aimed at keeping us healthy and happy throughout the year. No one will resolve that in the new year he/she will do something which will give him/her sadness, leave them disappointed and frustrated and keep worrying for nothing. At least, we the senior citizens will not risk doing anything which brings unhappiness. We had shouldered a lot of responsibilities in service and in the family, faced so many challenges, struggled to reach a goal, fought against odds, experienced serious health issues of self and near and dear. All we need now is only peace and harmony.

That is why our logo rightly wants us to “Enjoy Second Innings”. We need to understand our limitations, keep track of reality, facts and our rights, be practical and rational, avoid being emotional and to stay calm under any situation. At this age, we should be mature enough with the worldly experience that we have gained in the past, to distinguish between truth and fiction. This is not the age to keep worrying about imaginary and unreal issues. After all, we have been blessed with financial stability unlike most other pensioners, are generally in good health apart from the medical conditions due to ageing and have peaceful family atmosphere with well settled children.

It is time to travel, see places, learn new hobbies, cherish happy memories, share with friends and do anything else for which we did not have time while we were in service. Happiness is everywhere around us and let us not lose sight of it by worrying about unreal and absurd matters. All we need to do is taking care of our health and keep enjoying every moment of life.

Be positive, be satisfied, keep healthy relationships, practice self-healthcare and share your happiness with others. AIBSNLREA wishes all a Happy and Healthy New Year 2023.

IDA RATES DUE FROM 01.01.2023

According to calculations based on All India Consumer Price Index for the months September 2022, October and November 2022, the revised IDA rate due w.e.f. 01.01.2023 is 201.1%% [increase by 5.3%] for CPSEs where the last pay revision was implemented w.e.f. 1.1.2007 and 408.5%% [increase by 9%] for CPSEs where the last pay revision was implemented w.e.f. 1.1.1997.

TREND SETTERS

There is no secret that in absence of required fund, AIBSNLREA always finds it extremely difficult to manage its organizational activities which include holding of events like All India Conference etc. However, its branches and members are always found magnanimous in responding to the call of the Association to attend such events even at their own costs and make the events a great success. We once again find tremendous response from the members in connection with the AIC being held at Kolkata. Over and above, a few members and Branches have gone one step forward and voluntarily contributed to their might as donation to CHQ. A few such instances with reference to the 3rd All India Conference of AIBSNLREA being held at Kolkata are cited below:

- Ernakulam-Alleppey Branch of Kerala State has donated Rupees ten thousand (Rs. 10,000/-) only.
- Shri R Duraisamy, a Delegate from Chennai Branch (Tamilnadu State) had to cancel his journey to Kolkata due to cataract operation of his eyes. Instead of requesting for refund of delegate fee, he has donated the entire amount of Rs. 4,500/- to the Association as AIC expenses.
- Smt Christy Parimala of Chennai Branch (Tamilnadu State), who would be attending the AIC as a delegate, has similarly not asked to refund the Guest Charges that she paid for SMatilda Rachel who had to cancel her journey. Instead, she has also donated the entire amount of Rs. 6,500/- to the Association as AIC expenses

AIBSNLREA expresses its gratitude to all of them



Important Development of the Month

TELECOM MINISTER OUSTS 10 SENIOR DOT OFFICERS WITH DOUBTFUL INTEGRITY:

According to media reports, Telecom Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw has approved force retirement for 10 senior DoT officials, including a joint secretary, an official source said on Saturday. This is the first time employees in the Department of Telecom have been given forced retirement under section 56 (J) under Pension Rule 48 of CCS (Pension)

Rules, 1972. In September, a senior BSNL official, who was caught napping in Mr. Vaishnav's meeting after the cabinet cleared a ₹1.64 lakh-crore package for the public sector enterprise, was given voluntary retirement from the service.



Issues taken up

26.12.2022: AIBSNLREA AGAIN WRITES TO THE SECRETARY (PENSION), DOP&PW ON RELUCTANCE ON THE PART OF CGMT, UP(WEST), BSNL TO IMPLEMENT THE CLEAR INSTRUCTION OF DOP&PW ISSUED, VIDE OM NO.28/90/2022-P&PW(B)/8297 DATED 02.10.2022, REGARDING REGULARIZATION OF THE PERIOD OF INTERRUPTION IN EXCESS OF JOINING TIME, DUE TO THE TRAINING AND REGULAR APPOINTMENT BEING AT DIFFERENT STATIONS, BY GRANT OF LEAVE OF THE KIND DUE OR IF NO SUCH LEAVE IS DUE, BY GRANT OF EXTRAORDINARY LEAVE – CASE OF SHRI AJAY KUMAR DUBEY, RETD AGM, AGRA TELECOM DISTRICT:

AIBSNLREA has drawn the attention of the Secretary (Pension) DoP&PW to the reply given by PGM TD, BSNL, Agra that “necessary guidelines have been sought for from Circle Office.” AIBSNLREA says, it is really disgusting that in spite of clear and categorical instructions given in the above referred to Office Memorandum of DoP&PW, i.e. the nodal Department on pension matters, the BSNL unit wants guidelines from its Circle office. After waiting for nearly 3 years now without the issue getting resolved, we can only see this as another attempt to further delay resolution. Hence, the Secretary (Pension) has been requested to intervene in the matter and direct BSNL authorities to follow the instructions given in DoP&PW OM No.28/90/2022-P&PW(B)/8297 dated 2nd October 2022 and to condone the administrative delay in the case of Shri Ajay Kumar Dubey, Retd AGM. [View the letter](#)

15.12.2022: AIBSNLREA AGAIN WRITES TO THE DIRECTOR (HR) BSNL, REQUESTING TO RELEASE THE WITHHELD AMOUNT OF EX-GRATIA, GRANT OF TIME BOUND UPGRADATION FROM E4 TO E5 AND FROM E5 TO E6 AND ALSO RELEASING OF GRATUITY AND CVP IN VIEW OF QUASHING OF CHARGESHEET BY HON'BLE CAT BANGALORE AND ON ATTAINING OF AGE 60 YEARS- CASE OF SHRI B M NYAMATI, RETD CAO, BANGALORE TELECOM DISTRICT:

AIBSNLREA has again written to Director (HR) BSNL, drawing his attention to the fact that almost six months back we were told that letter requesting grant of VC has been received from Karnataka Circle and has been sent to CVO for obtaining clearance. But Shri B M Nyamati is yet to get his retirement regularized and his retirement benefits released. Personal attention of the Director (HR) BSNL has been requested for early issue of his final retirement orders, release of withheld ex-gratia, Gratuity, other retiral benefits and grant of Time Bound Upgradation from E4 to E5 and from E5 to E6 scales and to render justice to the aggrieved pensioner. [View the letter](#)

13.12.2022: AIBSNLREA AGAIN WRITES TO THE GENERAL MANAGER (CA/ERP-FICO) BSNL CO REGARDING PAYMENT OF MEDICAL BILLS TO RETIRED BSNL EMPLOYEES – STILL A SIZABLE NUMBER OF CLAIMS UP TO 31.03.2022 REMAINING UNPAID:

AIBSNLREA has again written to the General Manager (CA/ERP-FICO), BSNL CO drawing his attention to the fact that still a sizable number of claims pertaining to the period prior to 31.03.2022 remain unpaid in many Circles including BSNL Corporate Office, as per our reports, after exhausting the funds provided following your letter dated 30.08.2022 and has requested him to ensure that the necessary funds requested by the Circles on this count are allotted at the earliest, so that the agony of the BSNL retired employees comes to an end and your whole-hearted effort attains its goal. [View the letter](#)

12.12.2022: AIBSNLREA WRITES TO THE SECRETARY, DOT ON NON-REGULARISATION OF THE SUSPENSION PERIOD DESPITE ACQUITTAL IN A CBI CASE, IN ADDITION TO NON-PAYMENT OF GRATUITY, COMMUTATION OF PENSION AND NON-SETTLEMENT OF REGULAR PENSION CASE OF SHRI H S SUTARIA, RETD JTO, GUJARAT TELECOM CIRCLE, BSNL:

AIBSNLREA has again written to the Secretary DoT, now regarding regularisation of suspension period despite acquittal in a CBI case in the case of Shri H S Sutaria, Retd JTO Gujarat Telecom Circle, requesting immediate payment of Gratuity and other pensionary benefits and regularisation of the suspension period. [View the letter](#)



GOVERNMENT/BSNL ORDERS & LETTERS

15.12.2022: CGHS DIRECTORATE ISSUES INSTRUCTIONS TO ALL CGHS WELLNESS CENTRES AND UNITS TO FOLLOW CGHS GUIDELINES ISSUED FROM TIME TO TIME:

CGHS Directorate, vide its Office Order No.Z.15025/7/2022/DIR/CGHS dated 15th December 2022, has asked the CMOs in charge and other Medical Officers and staff of all CGHS Wellness Centres and the staff working in the administrative offices of CGHS to keep themselves with the guidelines/orders issued under CGHS and implement the same in discharging their duties. In this regard, CGHS Directorate has reiterated that special attention be paid to some issues like punctuality in attendance, validity of CGHS card in any CGHS Wellness Centre in the country, issue of medicines for three months in case of chronic illnesses etc. [View the CGHS Directorate Office Order](#)



RESPONSE/ACTION TAKEN ON AIBSNLREA'S REPRESENTATIONS

30.12.2022: BSNL RESPONDS TO AIBSNLREA LETTER ON PENSION CONTRIBUTION BY BSNL IN RESPECT OF ITS ABSORBED EMPLOYEES – CLARIFICATIONS REQUIRED BY DOE YET TO BE SUPPLIED BY BSNL:

AIBSNLREA had written to CMD BSNL on 17th November 2022 requesting early issue of clarifications sought for by DoT on pension contribution on actual basic pay. We had

mentioned that BSNL Pensioners are very much concerned about the matter of pension contribution, as financial health of BSNL is as important to the BSNL absorbed pensioners as BSNL employees. BSNL has now responded stating that "BEING POLICY MATTER ONCE DECISION TAKEN SAME SHALL BE CONVEYED. THANKS FOR TAKING UP THE ISSUE." [View the BSNL letter](#)

27.12.2022: BSNL PLANS TO PROVIDE A WEB-BASED SOLUTION FOR RETIRED EMPLOYEES TO SUBMIT AND TRACK LATEST STATUS OF THEIR CLAIMS:

AIBSNLREA had several times requested BSNL authorities to implement a web based solution, with the latest letter addressed to GM (CA/ERP-FICO) on 6th October 2022 in which we had requested that submission, pendency and payment of claims may be displayed and updated regularly in BSNL Intranet main page and made accessible to the pensioners through some username and password. BSNL has now issued a letter all CGMs conveying its decision to implement a pan-India web based solution for the retired employees to submit and track latest status of their claims and has requested the Circles to nominate a Nodal Officer for coordination with ITPC Development Unit, Hyderabad. [View the BSNL letter](#)

16.12.2022: PGM TD, AGRA RESPONDS TO AIBSNLREA LETTER DATED 14.10.2022 ADDRESSED TO DIRECTOR (HR) BSNL ON CONDONATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE DELAY IN ISSUING APPOINTMENT LETTER TO SHRI A K DUBEY RETD AGM AGRA UNDER RULE 22 OF CCS (PENSION) RULES, 1972 FOR CONUNTING OF PRE-APPOINTMENT TRAINING AS QUALIFYING SERVICE:

AIBSNLREA had again took up the matter with Director (HR) BSNL, now drawing his attention to a recent Office Memorandum issued by DoP&PW vide its O.M. No.28/90/2022-P&PW(B)/8297 dated 02.10.2022, providing that "where the period of interruption in excess of joining time is due the training and regular appointment being at different stations, such period of interruption in excess of joining time is required to be regularised by grant of leave of the kind due or if no such leave is due, by grant of extraordinary leave by the Head of the Department. The period of interruption regularised by grant of extraordinary leave in such cases is required to be counted as qualifying service." PGM TD Agra has now responded stating that "necessary guidelines are being sought for." [View the PGM TD Agra letter](#)

14.12.2022: GENERAL MANAGER (CA/ERP-FICO) BSNL CO RESPONDS IMMEDIATELY TO AIBSNLREA LETTER DATED 13.12.2022 REGARDING PAYMENT OF MEDICAL BILLS TO RETIRED BSNL EMPLOYEES – STILL A SIZABLE NUMBER OF CLAIMS UP TO 31.03.2022 REMAINING UNPAID:

In response to AIBSNLREA letter dated 13.12.2022, GM (CA/ERP-FICO) BSNL CO has sent a reply email stating that "The contents of the mail have been noted. The same is copied to Budget Cell for further necessary action". [View the copy of email](#)



BRANCHES IN ACTION

29.12.2022: GB MEETING OF LUCKNOW BRANCH (UP STATE) OF AIBSNLREA HELD:

Lucknow Branch (UP State) of AIBSNLREA held its 3rd Annual Conference on 28.12.2022 in the Mini Hall of Gandhi Bhawan, near Residency from 10.00 to 14.30 hrs under the Chairmanship of Shri B L Mishra, President of Lucknow Branch. 45 members attended the meeting. During the meeting, 2 new members i.e. S/Shri S R Upadhyay Retd TDM and V S Pandey Retd SDE were enrolled as Life members. Branch Secretary Shri S P Singh presented his Annual Report and Shri Ashok Srivastava presented the Financial Report. Both were adopted by the house. State Secretary Shri R S Arora and State Financial Secretary Shri Ambika Singh also spoke on the occasion. Ten members of the Branch, who retired in 2003 and crossed 80 years of age, were honoured by presenting with Shawls. Shri Radhey Shyam, Organising Secretary conducted the proceedings of the House. The Branch President then presented vote of thanks and dissolved the old Executive body. Following this, a new Executive body was elected unanimously. Lunch was served to all the participants after the meeting. [View the list of new Office Bearers](#)

19.12.2022: ALLEPPEY BRANCH OF AIBSNLREA HELD GB MEETING:

Alleppey Branch (Kerala State) of AIBSNLREA held a GB Meeting on 17.12.2022 at the residence of Shri Mathew Jacob. The meeting started at 11 AM. After silent prayer for the departed members and others, Branch Secretary Shri Rajmohan welcomed all. After brief address by Shri Nebu Mathew, Shri K G Balakrishna Pillai explained in detail the various issues such as pension revision, medical bill payment etc. Branch Secretary Shri Rajmohan then explained about migration to CGHS. The meeting also decided to give contribution for the AIC at Kolkata being held in January 2023. Shri Sukumara Pillai, Branch Finance Secretary presented the Vote of Thanks. The meeting was adjourned at 13.00 PM for meals.

15.12.2022: AIBSNLREA, CHATTISGARH STATE BRANCH MEETS CGMT, BSNL, CHATTISGARH CIRCLE:

Chhattisgarh State Branch of AIBSNLREA held an informal meeting with CGMT, BSNL Chhattisgarh Circle on 14.12.2022. The meeting took place under the chairmanship of Shri P K Singh, CGMT CG Circle. Senior officers from Circle Administration and Finance were present. The association was represented by S/Shri G P Pandey State Secretary, S K Sharma, R S Chauhan, B. Bhoutekar and Smt Asha Chaturvedi. Mainly the issues relating to BSNLMRS cases were discussed. The issues related to Circle Office were mostly resolved.

12.12.2022: GB MEETING OF MUMBAI BRANCH OF AIBSNLREA:

Mumbai Branch of AIBSNLREA held a GB Meeting on 22.11.2022 under the chairmanship of Shri Devassy, Branch President. The Branch Secretary apprised the members about the latest developments on various issues at CHQ and Circle level and also the details of the meeting that the State Branch had with Jt. CCA, Maharashtra.

[View posting dated 21.11.2022 in this website for further details]. Inadequacy of CGHS facilities and other issues were also discussed.

03.12.2022: AGB OF AIBSNLREA TRICHY BRANCH HELD:

Annual General Body meeting of AIBSNLREA Trichy Branch was held on 30.11.2022 under the Presidentship of Shri T.Gunasekaran with a participation of 17 members besides State Secretary Shri M.S.R. and Thanjavur Branch Secretary Shri R.J.Christopher. Meeting started with welcome address by Shri M.Anandan followed by Presidential address. Shri R.Venkataraman, Shri S.Andiappan, Shri K.Sivakumar, Shri K.Vishwanathan, Shri K.Meyyalahan and Smt. N.Bharathi participated in the discussions. Shri R.J.Christopher, Secretary, Thanjavur Branch felicitated the meeting. Meeting was very informative and interactive by the speech of Shri P.Manoharan and Special address by Shri M.S.R, State Secretary, who spoke on pay revision, pension revision, settlement of medical bills, migration to SAMPANN, CGHS etc. Meeting ended with vote of thanks but it is not an end, it is a beginning for the progressive welfare of AIBSNLREA members. New body of office bearers has been elected as follows: President. S.Vishwanathan,DGM. Vice president. K.Siva kumar,DE. Secretary. U.Ponnuchamy DGM. Asst.Secretary.S.Benjamin Arockiyaraj SDE. Treasurer.K.Meyyalahan, DE. Asst.Treasurer.S.Andiappan AO. Auditor. R.Rajendran SDE. Executive Committee members. P.Manoharan DGM . R.Venkataraman DE, Gunasekaran,DGM, V.Ganapathy Subramanian DE, N.Bharathi AGM, V.Mani SDE and M.Sivakumar SDE.



STATEMENT OF AMOUNT RECEIVED DURING DECEMBER 2022

01. Shri R Venkataraman of Trichy Branch (Tamilnadu State) deposited Rupees eleven thousand (Rs. 11,000/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Canara Bank on 01.12.2022 as Delegate Fee @ Rs. 4500/- for self and Guest charges @ Rs. 6,500/- for his spouse to attend Kolkata AIC.

02. Shri S B Mohare of Kalaburagi Branch (Karnataka State) deposited Rupees ten thousand (Rs. 10,000/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Canara Bank on 02.12.2022 as Delegate Fee @ Rs. 4500/- for self and part of Guest charge of Rs. 5,500/- for his spouse to attend Kolkata AIC.

03. East Vidarbha (Nagpur) Branch (Maharashtra State) deposited Rupees one thousand (Rs. 1,000/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Canara Bank on 02.12.2022 as CHQ Quota for five new Life Members.

04.Kolhapur Branch (Maharashtra State) deposited Rupees eight hundred (Rs. 800/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Canara Bank on 05.12.2022 as CHQ Quota for four new Life Members.

05. Gujarat State deposited Rupees nine thousand (Rs. 9,000/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Canara Bank on 05.12.2022 as delegate Fee for 2 delegates to attend AIOC at Kolkata.

06. Agra Branch (Uttar Pradesh State) deposited Rupees five thousand (Rs. 5,000/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Canara Bank on 08.12.2022 as part of delegate Fee for 2 delegates to attend AIOC at Kolkata.

07. Agra Branch (Uttar Pradesh State) deposited Rupees four thousand (Rs. 4,000/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Canara Bank on 09.12.2022 as remaining part of delegate Fee for 2 delegates to attend AIOC at Kolkata.

08. Shimla Branch (Himachal Pradesh State) deposited Rupees two hundred (Rs. 200/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Canara Bank on 09.12.2022 as CHQ Quota for oner new Life Member.

09. Prayagraj Branch (Uttar Pradesh State) deposited Rupees six hundred (Rs. 600/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Canara Bank on 12.12.2022 as CHQ Quota for three new Life Members.

10. Odisha State Branch deposited Rupees four thousand five hundred (Rs. 4,500/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Canara Bank on 13.12.2022 as delegate Fee for Shri B S Swain to attend Kolkata AIC.

11. West Bengal State Branch deposited Rupees six thousand two hundred (Rs. 6,200/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Canara Bank on 13.12.2022 as CHQ Quota for thirty-one new Life Members.

12. Dhanbad Branch (Jharkhand State) deposited Rupees thirteen thousand five hundred (Rs. 13,500/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Canara Bank on 14.12.2022 as delegate Fee for three delegates to attend Kolkata AIC.

13. Dhanbad Branch (Jharkhand State) deposited Rupees two thousand (Rs. 2,000/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Canara Bank on 14.12.2022 as CHQ quota for 10 new Life Members.

14. Shri S Basu of Delhi Circle deposited Rupees six thousand five hundred (Rs. 6,500/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Canara Bank on 15.12.2022 as Guest charges for the Kolkata AIC.

15. Chennai Branch (Tamilnadu State) deposited Rupees one thousand (Rs. 1,000/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Canara Bank on 18.12.2022 as CHQ quota for 5 new life members.

16. Dhanbad Branch (Jharkhand State) deposited Rupees four thousand five hundred (Rs. 4,500/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Canara Bank on 19.12.2022 as delegate Fee for one delegate to attend Kolkata AIC.

17. Chennai Branch (Tamilnadu State) deposited Rupees four hundred (Rs. 400/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Canara Bank on 20.12.2022 as CHQ quota for 2 new life members.

18. Alleppey-Ernakulam Branch (Kerala State) deposited Rupees ten thousand (Rs. 10,000/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Canara Bank on 20.12.2022 as Donation for the AIC at Kolkata.

19. Chennai Branch (Tamilnadu State) deposited Rupees two thousand two hundred (Rs. 2,200/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Canara Bank on 25.12.2022 as CHQ quota (Rs. 200/-) for one new life member and donation of Rs. 1000/- each from Smt J Rajalakshmi and Shri N.Subramaniam

20. Lucknow Branch (Uttar Pradesh State) deposited Rupees four hundred (Rs. 400/-) only in the S/B Account of CHQ with Canara Bank on 29.12.2022 as CHQ quota for 2 new life members.



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