



Editorial

IT IS A CASE OF SHEER STUPIDITY

Once the Department of Expenditure (Ministry of Finance) issued an Order on 23.04.2020 freezing the Dearness Allowance/Dearness Relief of the Central Government Employees and pensioners drawing pay/pension in CDA pattern for January 2020, July 2020, January 2021 till July 2021, some people could not hold their breath and immediately rushed to the administration to seek immediate clarification on the impact of this Order on the CPSE Employees/Pensioners drawing pay/pension in IDA pattern. These are the people who claim to possess vast knowledge on all the issues concerning the pensioners in general and the BSNL IDA pensioners in particular and always like to be seen in the forefront whether there is an issue or not. In this particular case, they did not take time even to apply their mind questioning themselves on any possible impact of the Government Order on BSNL IDA pensioners. Instead, they thought it better to rush to the administration for an answer.

Even a lay man can say that the Government Order in question freezing DA/DR is in respect of Central Government Employees and the Central Government pensioners are applicable only for those drawing pay/pension in CDA pattern. It cannot have any impact on the CPSE Employees and Pensioners drawing pay and pension in IDA scale. Moreover, Revision of DA/DR for CG Employees/Pensioners takes place after every 6 months with the approval of

Cabinet, whereas the IDA DA gets revised after every quarters for which DPE issues the Orders. Further, method of calculation to arrive at the quantum of increase in both the cases are different. While for CDA last 12 months average of AICPI (All India Consumer Price Index) is used for calculation, in respect of IDA, last three months average is taken. Moreover, whenever the AICPI falls and the three months average too falls, the Industrial Dearness Allowance for the CPSE Employees even gets reduced. This is not the case with CDA as the 12 months average has never fallen. Thus, no parallel can be drawn between CDA DA/DR and IDA DA/DR. Therefore, the Government Order freezing DA/DR for CG Employees/CG Pensioners in CDA Scales cannot be applied in case of CPSE Employees and Pensioners drawing pay/pension in IDA pattern.

It is really a matter of great regret that despite BSNL telling these people in their own words "that till the time DPE issue the orders DoT/ BSNL can't issue any order in this regard", they went on unnecessarily hanging on the matter. The fall out of their childish adventurism is now quite obvious with non-payment of revised IDA effective from 1st April 2020 to the BSNL IDA pensioners which the Banks were ready to disburse.

DOT is also totally wrong in its hesitation to implement DPE's Order revising IDA w.e.f. 1st April 2020 to all the

BSNL/MTNL IDA pensioners. It cannot expect DPE to issue any instructions in the similar lines as that issued for the CG Employees/Pensioners. Moreover, DPE has no say on the issues related to the Pensioners drawing pension under Rule 37-A of CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972.

created has to be owned by both the hyperactive, ignorant leadership in whose reckless mind BSNL IDA pensioners are still Government pensioners; and the Administration which failed to understand that mere payment of pension by the Government does not make CDA orders applicable for those covered under IDA Orders.

Therefore, the onus for the mess that was unnecessarily allowed to be

IMPORTANT EVENTS OF THE MONTH

- ❖ Department of Public Enterprises issued orders upwardly revising the Industrial Dearness Allowance from 157.3% to 160.7% w.e.f. 01.04.2020 payable to the employees of Central Public Enterprises.
- ❖ Central Board of Direct Taxes, Ministry of Finance has issued Orders extending the validity of Forms 15G and 15H submitted during the last financial year till 30th June, 2020. Concerned Banks/Post Offices shall not deduct TDS in such cases for the quarter ending on 30.06.2020.
- ❖ Central Board of Direct Taxes, Ministry of Direct Taxes has reiterated that individual tax payers continue to have the option either to continue with old tax regime with exemptions or opt for new tax regime without any tax exemptions at the time of filing their Income Tax Returns for the financial year 2020-21 and onward.
- ❖ BSNL Corporate Office has issued Orders extending the last date for revalidation of BSNLMRS Card for the BSNL Retired Employees of Corporate Office till 30.06.2020 or till further Orders, whichever is earlier. Most of the BSNL Telecom Circles are also reported to have issued Orders extending the last date for revalidation of BSNLMRS Medical Card for the BSNL Retired Employees on similar lines.
- ❖ In view of the crisis arising out of Covid-19, the Ministry of Finance has issued Orders freezing the Dearness Allowance and Dearness Relief due from January 2020, July 2020 and January 2021 till July 2021 payable to the CG Employees and CG Pensioners drawing pay and pension with DA/DR in CDA scales. Though, these will be restored prospectively with revised rates from July 2021, no arrears will be paid for this period.
- ❖ Being confused on the issue of similar freezing of IDR for BSNL and MTNL Pensioners whose pension are paid by the Government, DOT has issued a bizarre Order allowing payment of revised IDA with 160.7% IDA w.e.f. April 2020 for the pensioners who retired prior to 1.4.2020 and withholding payment to those retiring in April 2020, overlooking the fact that the pensioners are a homogenous class and they cannot be divided by drawing a line among them on such matters. A few over-enthusiastic, self-proclaimed leaders, who always try to establish their authority on each and every issue and lost no time in rushing unnecessarily to the administration to get a clarification on

the impact of DOE Order freezing CDA DA/DR on the BSNL IDA pensioners, are solely responsible for creation of this fiasco.

- ❖ DPE has issued an Order on 28.04.2020 advising all the administrative Ministries/ Departments of Central Government to circulate the Dept. of Expenditure (Ministry of Finance) Order 23.04.2020 freezing the DA/DR in CDA scale to the C.G. Employees/C.G. Pensioners drawing pay/pension in CDA pattern for January 2020, July 2020, January 2021 till July 2021 to all the CPSEs under their respective control. It issued no Orders in respect of CPSE employees drawing pay in IDA scale.

DONATION TO PM CARES FUND

As we all know that Prime Minister's Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situation Fund (PM CARES FUND) has been created for combating, containment and relief efforts against coronavirus outbreak and similar pandemic like situation in future. Donation have also been invited from general public and others to this Fund. Donation to this Fund allows tax-exemption under Section 80G of Income Tax Act, 1961. In order to make donation to this Fund, one has to go to website pmindia.gov.in and use the following details: - (1) Name of the Account: PM CARES, (2) Account No. 2121PM20202, (3) IFSC Code: SBIN0000691, (4) Swift Code: SBININBB104, (5) Name of Bank & Branch: State Bank of India, New Delhi Main Branch. Thereafter, one has to follow a few simple procedures to complete the process.

As we are receiving queries regarding any decision by the Association to collect the contribution centrally from members/well-wishers and remit the same to PM CARES FUND, we are to inform that it will be advantageous for individual members/well-wishers to directly send their donation to the Fund and even down-load the receipt from the above stated website pmindia.gov.in for their use. We will, however, request all such members/well-wishers to inform us their names, Branch/location, whether member/well-wisher, Amount donated etc on our e-mail id: gensecaibsnlrea@yahoo.com. We shall compile this and upload in our website. We are not suggesting any fixed amount for donation and it is left to the members/well-wishers themselves to decide.

SUBMISSION OF OPTION IN ADVANCE BY THE PENSIONERS TO THE CCAs FOR TDS RECOVERY EITHER AS PER OLD TAX REGIME WITH EXEMPTIONS OR NEW TAX REGIME WITHOUT EXEMPTIONS

All Controllers of Communication Accounts have invited option in advance from all the pensioners to get their TDS deducted for the current financial year based on either as per old Tax regime which allows various income tax exemptions or the new tax regime without any tax exemption. In this regard, CBDT has already clarified that though the employers would invite such option in the month of April from the employees for the purpose of deduction of TDS, these tax payers would anyhow be allowed to exercise **final option at the time of submission of their Annual Income Tax Returns [View posting dated 14.04.2020 in this website to read the CBDT Order]. Following issue of this clarification, BSNL has already invited option from its serving employees. Since the concerns that we had regarding the right to exercise option at the time of submission of our Income Tax Returns have already been allayed, no more doubts now exist in intimating the CCAs to deduct TDS on pension as per either old tax regime or new tax regime. Individual**

members can later very well take an informed decision on their own and then finally weigh the tax benefits between the old tax regime and new tax regime at the time of filing their returns and choose the right tax regime which will be found beneficial. The CBDT circular has also made it clear that, in case no intimation for the purpose of TDS is given now, the employer shall make TDS without considering the provisions of section 115BAC. In other words, in this case TDS will be deducted on the basis of old tax regime only.

NON-PAYMENT OF REVISED IDA EFFECTIVE FROM 1ST APRIL 2020 WITH THE PAYMENT OF PENSION FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 2020 TO THE BSNL IDA PENSIONERS - BSNL IS SAID TO BE VILLAIN IN THE ACT

All the BSNL IDA Pensioners, who mostly received their pension for the month of April 2020 on 27th or 28th April, 2020 in their Savings Bank Accounts, were shocked to find that the revised IDA at 160.7% IDA w.e.f. 1.4.2020 as ordered by DPE as back as on 03.04.2020 remained unpaid. No one had any clue for this and had been wondering where it went wrong. Many sent mails to their respective Banks asking for the payment. The GS, AIBSNLREA had also sent personal mail on 28th April, 2020 after receiving notification for payment and again in the early morning of 29th April, 2020 to the Central Pension Processing Center of his own Pension Disbursing Bank i.e. Andhra Bank at Hyderabad about his personal pension case. On 29th April 2020, around 11 AM, an Official from the CPPC contacted him to convey that they were ready with the payment, but at the last moment they were asked by BSNL to stop payment and they had to abide by the instruction. He further added that in the after-noon of 28.04.2020, they were asked to go ahead with the payment. But by this time, the payment of pension without enhanced IDA was already released. He further assured that efforts would be made to make the payment separately at the earliest or as arrears along with the next month's pension whichever is earlier. The above fact is being brought to the knowledge of all the pensioners in general and the members of AIBSNLREA in particular to once again confirm how the ill-informed, inhumane and callous administrative machinery in BSNL and DOT are just creating problems after problems to the BSNL IDA pensioners.

NB: After uploading the above text, reports were being received from our member-pensioners drawing pension from Andhra Bank that they also have received the balance of the payment on account of increased IDA. All other CPPCs of different pension disbursing Banks are now required to similarly release the payment for which our activists-members drawing pension from those Banks have already sent mails.

ISSUES TAKEN UP

AIBSNLREA WRITES TO CMD, BSNL TO EXTEND THE APPLICATION OF CORPORATE OFFICE ORDER DATED 21.04.2020 FOR REVALIDATION OF BSNLMRS MEDICAL CARD TO ALL THE BSNL RETIRED EMPLOYEEES IN DIFFERENT BSNL CIRCLES/UNITS: Since the BSNL Corporate Office has issued an Order on 21.04.2020 extending the validation of BSNLMRS Card till 30.06.2020 or till further Orders, whichever is earlier only for the Retired BSNL Employees of Corporate Office alone, AIBSNLREA has again taken up the matter with CMD, BSNL for issue of Orders extending application of the said Orders for all the Retired BSNL Employees all over India. The Association has pointed out that since application of this Order has been restricted only for the BSNL Retired Employees of BSNL Corporate Office, the very purpose of issuing the Order is lost. BSNL Corporate Office not only

frames policies regarding BSNLMRS but also brings changes in it from time to time and also monitors their implementation. As such, it is the Corporate which alone can decide on the matter of extension of the date for revalidation and also issue orders extending the revalidation work of BSNLMRS Cards for all the Retired Employees stationed all over the country. [View posting dated 22.04.2020 in this website to read the letter.](#)

EXTENSION OF DATE FOR REVALIDATION OF BSNLMRS CARDS OF THE RETIRED BSNL EMPLOYEES IN VIEW OF LOCK DOWN IN THE COUNTRY AS ORDERED BY THE GOVERNMENT-AIBSNLREA REQUESTS CMD, BSNL TO EXTEND THE DATE TILL 30TH JUNE 2020: In a representation addressed to CMD, BSNL and copies endorsed to Director (HRD), BSNL and Secretary (Telecom), AIBSNLREA has pointed out that the retired BSNL employees, who are required to get revalidation of their BSNLMRS Cards in the month of April, would not be able to get it done due to lockdown ordered by the Government till May 3, 2020 which is likely to be further extended or may partially be lifted. In view of the fact that the retired BSNL Employees, as Senior Citizens, are more prone to coronavirus and it is otherwise also not advisable for them to venture out during these critical days, AIBSNLREA has requested that the date for re-validation work may be extended till 30th June, 2020 in the similar lines as Government has allowed in case of submission of Forms 15-G and Forms 15-H till 30th June 2020 for Income Tax purpose. Request has also been made that based on the revalidation done in the last financial year, the validity of existing Cards may also be extended till June, 2020. [View posting dated 17.04.2020 in this website to read the letter.](#)

AIBSNLREA WRITES TO SECRETARY (TELECOM) REGARDING OVER ENTHUSIASTIC AND UNILATERAL ACTION OF CCA, PUNJAB TO CALL OPTION IN ADVANCE FROM THE PENSIONERS REGARDING THEIR CHOICE EITHER TO CONTINUE WITH OLD SYSTEM FOR INCOME TAX CALCULATION OR TO SWITCH OVER TO NEW TAX REGIME: Controller of Communication Accounts, Punjab of his own has issued a letter addressed to the pensioners, vide its No. Nil dated 09.04.2020, asking them to exercise option by 15.04.2020 either to continue with old tax regime with eligible tax exemptions as per IT Act or opt for new tax regime without claiming any exemptions. Since this defeats the very purpose of Government's decision to allow the Tax Payers to choose between the two Tax regimes whichever is found beneficial to them at the time of submission of their IT Returns to the Income Tax Department, AIBSNLREA has taken up the matter with Secretary (Telecom) seeking his intervention and requesting him to advise CCA, Punjab to withdraw his letter. [View posting dated 14.04.2020 in this website to read the letter.](#)

RESPONSE TO AIBSNLREA'S REPRESENTATIONS

PMO FORWARDS AIBSNLREA'S REPRESENTATION DATED 27/02/2020 REGARDING NON-ACCOUNTING AND NON-REFUND OF GPF CONTRIBUTION DEDUCTED FROM THE SALARY OF SHRI V VELAPPAN RETD DGM, TAMILNADU TO SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS: AIBSNLREA had once again taken up the case for non-accounting and non-refund of GPF contributions deducted from the salary of Shri V Velappan, Retd

DGM, BSNL, Tamilnadu Telecom Circle for the period December 1980 to September 1990, vide its No. AIBSNLREA/CHQ/2020/13 dated 27.02.2020, with Prime Minister of India [View posting dated 28.02.2020 in this website to read the letter]. The Prime Minister's Office had since forwarded the grievance to Secretary, Department of Telecommunication which is now under examination in the office of GM(Finance), Tamilnadu Circle. [View posting dated 30.04.2020 in this website to read the PMO letter.](#)

REVALIDATION OF BSNLMRS MEDICAL CARD FOR BSNL RETIRED EMPLOYEES OF CORPORATE OFFICE- BSNL CO ISSUES ORDERS EXTENDING THE VALIDITY TILL 30.06.2020 OR TILL FURTHER ORDERS, WHICHEVER IS EARLIER: In view of lock down in the entire country as ordered by the Government to fight coronavirus, AIBSNLREA had requested CMD, BSNL that the date for re-validation of BSNLMRS Card for the retired BSNL employees due in the month of April may be extended till 30th June, 2020 in the similar lines as the Government has allowed in case of submission of Forms 15-G and Forms 15-H till 30.06.2020 for Income Tax purpose [View posting dated 17.04.2020 in this website to read the letter]. Now BSNL Corporate Office has issued an Order vide its No. BSNL/Admn.I/2020-Medical dated 21.04.2020 extending the revalidation of BSNLMRS Medical Card for the BSNL Retired Employees of Corporate Office till 30.06.2020 or till further orders, whichever is earlier. Though we could get BSNL to agree to the principle and get an Order, but this fails to take care of the cases of the BSNL Retired Employees of rest of the units in BSNL. We are again taking up the issue with CMD, BSNL to issue a common order in the same lines to be made applicable in all the units of BSNL. Our State/Branch Secretaries are also requested to immediately represent to the concerned CGMs with copies to the concerned PGMs/GMs, enclosing the copy of this BSNL Order, to issue similar Orders for the BSNL Retired Employees from those Circles. This representation may be sent by e-mail. [View posting dated 21.04.2020 in this website to read the BSNL Order.](#)

GOVERNMENT/BSNL ORDERS

FREEZING OF DEARNESS ALLOWANCE TO THE EMPLOYEES DRAWING CDA PAY SCALES AT CURRENT RATES TILL JULY 2021 - DPE FORWARDS DOE'S ORDER DATED 23.04.2020 TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE MINISTRIES/DEPARTMENTS TO BRING IT TO THE NOTICE OF CPSEs UNDER THEIR RESPECTIVE CONTROL: Department of Public Enterprises has forwarded the copy of the Order dated 23.04.2020 issued by Department of Expenditure freezing the Dearness Allowance and Dearness Relief of Central Government Employees and Central Government pensioners drawing CDA pay scales at current rates till July, 2021 to all Administrative Ministries/Departments for bringing the same to the notice of Central Public Sector Enterprises under their respective control. DPE, however, itself has issued no orders on the issue. This re-affirms our conviction that the DOE Order dated 23.04.2020 would be applicable only in those CPSEs in which certain employees draw pay in CDA pay scales and also on some pensioners of those CPSEs who draw pension in CDA scale. Till now, this has no impact on CPSEs following IDA pattern of pay scales and also the pensioners drawing pension in IDA scale. [View posting dated 29.04.2020 in this website to read the DPE Order.](#)

DOT ISSUES CLARIFICATION IN THE MATTER OF FREEZING OF IDA FOR THE BSNL AND MTL IDA PENSIONERS: Department of Telecommunication, following the Orders issued by Ministry of Finance freezing the Dearness Allowance and Dearness Relief payable to the

Central Government Employees and Central Government Pensioners respectively w.e.f. 01.01.2020 to till July 2021, has issued an interim Order vide its No. I/Misc/Pen/Issue/BSNL/DDG(Accounts)/2019-Part-I/1407-1439 dated 28.04.2020, on the question of similar freezing of IDR payable to the BSNL and MTNL IDA Pensioners pending a clarification to be received from Department of Public Enterprises which so far has issued no orders for freezing of IDA for the Central Public Sector Employees whose salary are being paid by the respective employer CPSEs and not the Government. As per DOT's above quoted Order, the Pension for the month of April 2020 shall be disbursed at Dearness Relief @ 160.7% till further guidelines from DPE for the pensioners retiring prior to 01.04.2020. However, those retiring in April 2020, retirement benefits (paid by CCAs) be paid at old Dearness Relief as on 01.01.2020 till further guidelines from DPE. [View posting dated 28.04.2020 in this website to read the DOT Order.](#)

EXTENSION OF VALIDITY OF BSNLMRS CARDS OF THE BSNL RETIRED EMPLOYEES IN RAJASTHAN TELECOM CIRCLE: Rajasthan Telecom Circle, vide its No. BSNL-MRS/Card Renew/2020-21 dated 23.04.2020, has issued orders extending the validity of BSNL Medical Card of the BSNL retired employees to 30.06.2020 or till further order, whichever is earlier. [View posting dated 28.04.2020 in this website to read the Rajasthan Telecom Circle Order.](#)

CHENNAI TELEPHONES ISSUES ORDERS EXTENDING THE VALIDITY OF EXISTING BSNLMRS CARDS OF THE BSNL RETIRED EMPLOYEES / VRS RETIREES TILL 30.06.2020 OR TILL ISSUE OF FURTHER ORDER, WHICHEVER IS EARLIER: Chennai Telephones, citing the Order dated 21.04.2020 issued by BSNL Corporate Office, has issued an Order, vide its No. AWL/BSNLMRS/GENERAL CIRCULAR/20-21 dated 24.04.2020 extending the validity of existing BSNL Medical Card of the retired employees/VRS retirees till 30.06.2020 or till further order, whichever is earlier. [View posting dated 27.04.2020 in this website to read the Chennai Telephones Order.](#)

PGM TELECOM DISTRICT, AMBALA ISSUES ORDERS EXTENDING THE VALIDITY OF BSNLMRS CARDS OF THE BSNL RETIRED EMPLOYEES AND ALSO THE SERVICE MEDICAL CARDS OF ALL VRS OPTTEES WHO DID NOT GET THEIR RETIRED EMPLOYEES MADICAL CARD TO 30.06.2020: Principal General Manager Telecom District, Ambala, Haryana Telecom Circle, on the direction of BSNL Circle Office, has issued Orders, vide its No. GG-70/MRS Cards Extension/retired employees/2 dated 31.03.2020, extending the validity of (i) BSNL Medical Card holders of retired employees to 30.06.2020 and also (ii) the in-service Medical Cards of all employees who opted for VRS in the month of January 2020 and did not get their retired employees Medical Card to 30.06.2020. [View posting dated 25.04.2020 in this website to read the PGM TD, Ambala Order.](#)

GOVERNMENT ISSUES ORDERS FREEZING DEARNESS ALLOWANCE AND DEARNESS RELIEF PAYABLE WITH EFFECT FROM JANUARY 2020, JULY 2020 AND JANUARY 2021 TO THE CG EMPLOYEES AND CG PENSIONERS RESPECTIVELY: In view of the crisis arising out of Covid-19, the Ministry of Finance has issued Orders freezing the Dearness Allowance and Dearness Relief for the CG Employees and CG Pensioners respectively due from January 2020, July 2020 and January 2021 till July 2021. Though, the additional instalments of DA/DR as effective from 1st January 2020, 1st July 2020 and 1st January 2021 will be restored prospectively and subsumed in the cumulative revised rate effective from July 2021, no arrears will be paid for

this period. [View posting dated 24.04.2020 in this website to read the DOE, Min. of Finance Order.](#)

BSNL ISSUES ORDERS EXTENDING THE DATE OF SUBMISSION OF OPTION/DECLARATION FOR TDS RECOVERY AS PER NEW TAX REGIME WITHOUT EXEMPTIONS FOR ITS SERVING EMPLOYEES TILL 31st MAY, 2020: In our posting dated 23.04.2020 in this website regarding submission of option for TDS recovery as per new tax regime without exemptions, it was mentioned that BSNL has issued an Order on this matter in respect of its serving employees allowing exercising of option/declaration by 28th April 2020. Now BSNL, in a separate Order issued vide its No. 1001-22/2018-19/Taxation/BSNL/ 3778 dated 22.04.2020, has extended the last date for submission of option/declaration for its employees till 31st May, 2020. [View posting dated 24.04.2020 in this website to read the BSNL Order.](#)

REVALIDATION OF BSNLMRS MEDICAL CARD FOR BSNL RETIRED EMPLOYEEES-- MAHARSHTRA TELECOM CIRCLE ISSUES ORDERS EXTENDING THE VALIDITY TILL 30.06.2020 OR TILL FURTHER ORDERS, WHICHEVER IS EARLIER: Maharashtra Telecom Circle, vide its No. CGMT/MH/Admn-II/BSNLMRS/Annual verification/2020 dated 17.04.2020, has issued orders extending revalidation of BSNLMRS Medical Card for BSNL Retired Employees till 30.06.2020 or till further orders, whichever is earlier. [View posting dated 22.04.2020 in this website to read the MH Circle Order.](#)

REVALIDATION OF BSNLMRS MEDICAL CARD FOR BSNL RETIRED EMPLOYEEES OF CORPORATE OFFICE- BSNL CO ISSUES ORDERS EXTENDING THE VALIDITY TILL 30.06.2020 OR TILL FURTHER ORDERS, WHICHEVER IS EARLIER: In view of lock down in the entire country as ordered by the Government to fight coronavirus, AIBSNLREA had requested CMD, BSNL that the date for re-validation of BSNLMRS Card for the retired BSNL employees due in the month of April may be extended till 30th June, 2020 in the similar lines as the Government has allowed in case of submission of Forms 15-G and Forms 15-H till 30.06.2020 for Income Tax purpose [View posting dated 17.04.2020 in this website to read the letter]. Now BSNL Corporate Office has issued an Order vide its No. BSNL/Admn.I/2020-Medical dated 21.04.2020 extending the revalidation of BSNLMRS Medical Card for the BSNL Retired Employees of Corporate Office till 30.06.2020 or till further orders, whichever is earlier. [View posting dated 21.04.2020 in this website to read the BSNL CO Order.](#)

FINALIZATION OF REGULAR PENSION TO THE OFFICIALS RETIRING TILL MARCH 2020 TO BE ENSURED– DOT ADVISES ITS CCA OFFICES: In the background of normal functioning of the offices having been affected due to lock down, DOT in a letter issued vide No. 2/VRS/BSNL/MTNL/2019/Accounts/Misc./1138-1171 dated 13.04.2020, has advised the Addl. CGCA and all its Principal CCAs/CCAs to ensure that the officials retiring (other than VRS 2019 pensioners) till March 2020 do not face any hardship in disbursement of their regular pension owing to . The letter also insisted for making necessary arrangement to send requisite documents to the respective CCAs for finalization of regular pension for all such retirees. [View posting dated 18.04.2020 in this website to read the DOT letter.](#)

CENTRAL BOARD OF DIRECT TAXES ISSUES CLARIFICATION REGARDING EXERCISING OPTION BETWEEN CONTINUATION OF OLD TAX REGIME WITH NTAX EXEMPTIONS OR ADOPTION OF NEW REGIME WITHOUT EXEMPTIONS OF TAX BENEFITS- CONFIRMS OUR CONTENTION THAT THE OPTION IS AVAILABLE ONLY AT THE TIME OF SUBMISSION OF INCOME TAX RETURNS:

Central Board of Direct Taxes, Ministry of Finance, vide its F.No. 370142/13/2020-TPL dated 13.04.2020, has issued a clarification in the matter of exercising option by the individual Tax Payers either to continue with the old Tax regime by availing benefits of several tax exemptions or switch over to new tax regime without any exemptions under different Sections of IT Act. This clarification confirms our contention that the Tax Payers are entitled to exercise option at the time of submission of their Annual Income Tax Returns. [View posting dated 14.04.2020 in this website to read the CBDT Order.](#)

CBDT ALLOWS VALIDITY OF FORM 15G AND 15H SUBMITTED TO THE BANKS AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS DURING THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2019-2020 UPTO 30.06.2020:

In view of outbreak of pandemic Covid-19 virus which has caused serious disruption of the normal functioning of the Banks and other Institutions and since the eligible persons may not be able to submit Form 15G and 15H to the Banks and other Institutions in time, the Central Board of Direct Taxes has issued instructions, vide its F.No.275/25/2020-IT(B) dated 03.04.2020, extending the validity of these Forms submitted during the financial year 2019-20 up to 30.06.2020. TDS will be deducted based on these forms for the quarter ending 30.06.2020. [View posting dated 04.04.2020 in this website to read the CBDT Order.](#)

DPE ISSUES ORDERS REVISING IDA W.E.F. 1.4.2020 IN PSUs WHERE LAST PAY REVISION WAS IMPLEMENTED W.E.F. 1.1.2007:

Department of Public Enterprises has issued orders revising IDA w.e.f. 1.4.2020 from 157.3% to 160.7% for CPSEs where last pay revision was implemented w.e.f. 1.1.2007. [View posting dated 04.04.2020 in this website to read the DPE Order.](#)

DPE ISSUES ORDERS REVISING IDA W.E.F. 1.4.2020 IN PSUs WHERE LAST PAY REVISION WAS IMPLEMENTED W.E.F. 1.1.1997:

Department of Public Enterprises has issued orders revising IDA w.e.f. 1.4.2020 from 334.3% to 340.2% for CPSEs where last pay revision was implemented w.e.f. 1.1.1997. [View posting dated 04.04.2020 in this website to read the DPE Order.](#)

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