

All India Graduate Engineers & Telecom Officers Association

Central Headquarter, New Delhi

(The Recognised Representative Association of BSNL)

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GS/AIGETOA/2021/68

dated 03.06.2021

To,

URGENT MATTER

Shri P. K. Purwar, Chairman & Managing Director, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, New Delhi

Subject: Immediate deposit of the outstanding SAB amount from April 2020 onwards with interest and settlement of pension cases under "SAB Trust Rules of BSNL" for BSNL Recruits -Reg.

Respected Sir,

We would to like to draw your kind attention on one of the very important subject, which deals with the social security of the BSNL Recruited Employees. It is very astonishing to note that the management has completely ignored the employees recruited by its own i.e. BSNL Recruits, which constitute large numbers i.e. about 40000 (Including 22000+ Executives). This is very much evident with the treatment meted out and neglects by management towards their issues even those dealing with the post retirement benefits. Their Social security in terms of SAB is still struggling with just 21.8% defined contribution (EPF-12, SAB Pension-5 & Gratuity-4.8) against the proposed 30%. Even these defined contributions are not deposited timely, resulting in suffering of not only working BSNL recruited employees but even those who left the organisation on VRS or met unfortunate demises. So, we request for your kind and urgent attention on the followings:

1. 5% SAB Pension Fund has not been deposited to LIC (Fund manager) since April 2020:

It is extremely painful to note that our SAB Pension Fund contribution to LIC (Fund Manager) has not been deposited since April-2020, despite of the fact that all delayed payment is a direct loss to the BSNL Recruited Employees due to non accumulation of interest in the fund for these periods. On this account, we have already lost interest earlier as LIC gives interest only after the receipt of contribution in their account against the fund. This is a serious lapse on the part of BSNL and so it must be recouped by depositing all outstanding amounts with interest to the SAB Fund.

2. Immediate settlement of Pension cases of BSNL Recruits - VRS or Unfortunate Demise Cases: It is again shocking to note that not even a single Pension Case started under "SAB Trust Rules of BSNL" despite to the fact that thousand of BSNL Recruits took VRS in Jan-2020 (more than a year before) on the call of the government and most of them were entitled for the SAB Pension. On the other hand entire machinery of BSNL was put on job to settle Pension Cases of DoT absorbed VRS opted employees, which again shows sheer discrimination by the management towards BSNL Recruits. Inspite of our regular follow up and even bringing it to the knowledge of Dir(HR), the pension cases of these BSNL recruited employees couldn't be settled till date.

Regn. No.: HR/019/2018/02138

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Although, <u>SAB Pension would be a very meager amount of Rs 2000/- to Rs 3000/- monthly</u> or so (<u>Due to very late and too little start with 3% in 2016 and now just 5% towards SAB Pension Fund by BSNL for directly recruited employees</u>) but it's their entitled benefits, which was not extended even in the case of unfortunate demises, this itself speaks apathy of the department towards BSNL Recruits. In this Covid Pandemic more than 200 employees lost their life and their families are at most distress but those families are in more vulnerable position whose breadwinners were recruited by BSNL and not governed by the Government Pension. The pain of such families needs to be felt by the BSNL Board also and corrective action must be taken to start Pension to these families without further delay under "SAB Trust Rules of BSNL" as well as decision needs to be taken to enhance the quantum of the SAB to full 30% and its applicability since 01.10.2000.

We do hope that the our above concern will find suitable place in your thoughts and decision to extend justice to not only those who parted way on VRS or met to the sad demises in the period but to the 40000 employees and their families (which includes 22000 plus Executives) working on the roll of the BSNL in one of the most challenging environment. Accordingly, we demand immediate recoup of pending SAB Pension contribution and make it updated for all BSNL recruited employees along with lost interests and ensure start of Pension to BSNL Recruits and their families under "SAB Trust Rules of BSNL" without further delay for those either took VRS or met unfortunate end.

With Regards,

Sd/-[MD.WASI AHMAD]
General Secretary

Copy to:

- 1. The Director (HR), BSNL Board, New Delhi for kind information and needful please.
- 2. The Director (Fin), BSNL Board, New Delhi for kind information and needful please.
- 3. The Sr GM(Estt) BSNL Corporate Office, New Delhi for kind information and NA please.
- 4. The Sr GM (CA), BSNL Corporate Office, New Delhi for kind information and NA please.
- 5. The Sr GM (SR), BSNL Corporate Office, New Delhi for kind information and NA please.