



राष्ट्र हित

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All India Graduate Engineers & Telecom Officers Association

Central Headquarter, New Delhi

(A Recognised Association of BSNL Executives)

(Affiliated to BMS)



Regn. no. HR/019/2018/02138

President

G Veerabhadra Rao

9440648648

General Secretary

Ravi Shil Verma

8373967633

Finance Secretary

Badri Kumar Mehta

9868183579

All communication at E-mail - "chqaigetoa@gmail.com" only

GS / AIGETOA / 2024-25 / 125

Dated 17.01.2025

To,
Shri A Robert J Ravi Ji,
Chairman and Managing Director
BSNL, New Delhi - 110001.

Subject: Uploading of Approved Documents to EPFO Portal for All BSNL Recruited Employees Who Had Already Submitted Their EPF Higher Pension Option Applications to BSNL and Ensuring 100% Submission to EPFO by 31.01.2025.

Dear Sir,

We seek your kind attention towards the recent press release by EPFO, which specifies that the last date for employers to submit the approved copies of higher pension option applications to the EPFO portal is 31.01.2025. In this context, the BSNL Corporate Office has previously issued various instructions and guidelines regarding the processing of EPF higher pension applications. As per the latest communication, it is anticipated that the extended deadline, i.e., **31.01.2025, will be the final opportunity for employers to upload the documents after approval.**

It has come to our notice that hundreds of EPF higher pension option applications are still pending for approval and uploading, from BSNL's side. The pace at which this process is being executed is not satisfactory, and we are receiving numerous concerns from executives regarding pending approvals. Many Account Units are expressing their helplessness in retrieving the old data of employees who were transferred from different units before the 2009-2010 period. However, we would like to emphasize that it is the employer's responsibility to maintain payroll records of employees, and this should not be considered a justification for the delay in submission or uploading of documents to the EPFO portal.

In line with the provisions of the EPF & MP Act, 1952, BSNL, as the employer, is obligated to extend and enroll all directly recruited employees into the EPF scheme, contributing 12% of Basic + DA (both employer and employee share) to the EPFO. Anomalies if any, were already cleared by BSNL with EPFO much before in the 2006-2007 period with onetime payment, ensuring that payments were made for each directly recruited employee. Therefore, **there should be no hesitation from any**

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Regd. Office : Flat No. 716, Studio Apartment, Omaxe Height, Sector-86, Faridabad, Haryana - 121006

unit or circle in clearing pending cases and approving them for submission to EPFO.

Your good self may be aware that, when the Superannuation Pension Contribution and Trust were due for formation from the date of joining for each BSNL directly recruited employee as per Clause 23 of Rule-37A (refer Gazette Notification dated 30th September 2000), it was only made operational from 05.05.2016 after continuous efforts by this association. Unfortunately, the delayed actions of the then management in this regard caused thousands of BSNL Recruited employees to lose their rightful pension contributions from their respective date of joining to year 2016. As of now, the total SAB contributions are still pending for the employees including pending PRMB trust formation despite assurances from BSNL management many a times.

It is a well-established fact that BSNL directly Recruited employees of BSNL are not protected by any statutory pension or medical schemes. Their only remaining support post-retirement is the SAB (Superannuation Benefit) contributions. This association has also pursued legal remedies to ensure the implementation of EPF higher pension options, which are now being implemented. Therefore, the exclusion of any eligible employee who has opted for the higher pension scheme is unacceptable.

We request that responsibility be directly fixed for any exclusion from the EPFO portal upload. If any eligible employee is excluded, BSNL will be held liable for the pension disbursement at the rates calculated by EPFO for each and every omitted employee.

Therefore, we kindly request your personal intervention to this matter, and urge you to ensure the prompt and efficient completion of the necessary processes before the final deadline.

Thank you for your cooperation and support.

**Sd/-
[Ravi Shil Verma]
General Secretary**

Copy to :

1. Dr. Kalyan Sagar Nippani Ji, Director (HR), BSNL for kind information & request for necessary instructions pl.
2. Sh Rajiv Kumar Ji, Director (Finance) BSNL with request to instruct all concerned units to expedite approvals and uploads of pending applications pl.
3. Shri Rajeev Singh Ji, PGM CA-ERP FICO, kindly information & necessary action pl.