



P. Abhimanyu
General Secretary

BSNL EMPLOYEES UNION

Central Head Quarters

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BSNLEU/ 318 (MH)

14.12.2021

To,

Shri P.K. Purwar,
CMD BSNL,
Bharat Sanchar Bhawan,
H.C. Mathur Lane,
Janpath, New Delhi – 110 001

Sir,

Sub: - **Non-payment / delay in payment of retirement benefits on account of delay in verification of cast certificate in respect of retiring employees - req.**

Ref: - **F.NO.38/09(02)/2020-P&PW(A)(6721) of Department of Pension & Pensioner's Welfare dated 30.11.2021.**

With reference to the letter cited above, we wish to bring the following to your kind notice for favour of necessary action.

BSNLEU is continuously taking up the issue of deviation from DoP&T orders, in the matter of verifying / validating the genuiness of the caste certificate of 857 ST employees of Maharashtra circle, by the Maharashtra Circle Administration. Despite our repeated letters written to the Corporate Management, a section of the employees continue to suffer.

In the meanwhile, VRS-2019 has been implemented in BSNL. A good section of the ST employees of Maharashtra circle, in respect of whom verification / validation of caste certificate remains pending, have retired under this VRS. Further, many ST employees have also retired under superannuation. It is very painful to note that, the retirement benefits of these employees have not been settled on the plea that verification / validation of their caste certificate is not yet completed. The families of these employees are put into unwanted financial hardship.

Under these circumstances, the Department of Pension and Pensioners Welfare, vide it's letter cited under reference, has issued categorical instruction on this matter. It has stated that, the Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules 1972 or any instruction issued by the Department of Pension and Pensioners Welfare, has not authorised the withholding of the retirement benefits, on account of pending verification of caste status of the employee.

Further, the letter states that ***unless departmental or judicial proceedings are pending against a retiring employee, the pensionary / retirement benefits of the retiring employee should not be withheld or delayed on the ground of pendency of verification of caste certificate.***

As per the instructions issued by the Department of Pension and Pensioners Welfare, non-settlement of the retirement benefits of the ST employees of Maharashtra circle, on the ground that verification / validation of their caste certificates, is not completed, is violative of the government orders. Hence, we earnestly urge upon you to immediately issue necessary instruction to the concerned authorities, for the settlement of the retirement benefits of the retired ST employees of Maharashtra circle, without further delay.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

[P. Abhimanyu]
General Secretary

Copy to: (1) Shri Sanjay Kumar Singh, Secretary, Department of Pension and Pensioner's Welfare, New Delhi-110003
(2) Shri Arvind Vadnerkar, Director (HR), BSNL, Bharat Sanchar Bhawan, Janpath, New Delhi – 110001
(3) Shri Ramakant Sharma, Chief General Manager, BSNL, Maharashtra circle.