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PENSIONER**

A Monthly Magazine of Pensioners
for Pensioners by Pensioners

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A SYMBOL OF
PENSIONERS'

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**BHARAT PENSIONERS
SAMAJ**

(All India Federation of Pensioners' Associations)
(Registered No. 2023 of 1962-63), Recognised by GOI-DOP&PW
Associate NGO International Federation on Ageing.

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No BPS/SG/Assns/024/01

Dated: 26.07.2024

To,

Dr. Jitender Singh,

Honourable Minister of State (PP)

with Independent Charge,

Prime Minister's Office, India.

The Secretary (Pension),

Government of India.

**Subject: Facilities for Pensioners'
Associations**

Respected Sir,

I am writing to you with deep concern about the financial hardships faced by pensioners' welfare associations, which play an instrumental role in promoting the welfare of pensioners. These associations not only provide a platform for retirees to voice their grievances to the relevant authorities but also foster a sense of community and support among senior citizens.

Managed primarily through modest contributions from their members, who are themselves pensioners and senior citizens, these associations have always operated on tight budgets. The financial strain has only worsened since the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, the non-availability of 80G deductions in the new tax system has reduced contributions from members to negligible amounts. As a result, these associations now struggle to afford office space and conduct regular meetings, often resorting to holding meetings in members' residences, restaurants, hotels, or even parks, all of which can be costly and unsustainable.

In light of these challenges, Bharat Pensioners Samaj (BPS) earnestly requests the Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare (DOPPW) to issue instructions to all central and state

government departments to provide registered pensioners' associations with meeting space within their offices. Conference or seminar rooms/halls should be made available free of charge at least once a month for regular meetings and once a year for annual general meetings. Additionally, interested associations should be offered land at subsidized rates and financial support for constructing their offices or meeting places.

Furthermore, we request that all registered pensioners' associations be added to the respective departments' (e.g., Defence, Railways, Department of Telecom, etc.) mailing lists for all pensioner-related correspondence. A directive from the DOPPW to all government departments in this regard would ensure compliance and significantly alleviate the operational burdens faced by these associations.

Thank you for your attention and understanding.

We hope that you will consider our requests favorably and support the welfare of our nation's senior citizens.

With heartfelt regards,

Yours sincerely,



S.C. Maheshwari
Secretary General,
Bharat Pensioners Samaj