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PENSIONER**

A Monthly Magazine of Pensioners
for Pensioners by Pensioners
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A SYMBOL OF
PENSIONERS' UNITY

ESTABLISHED IN : 1955

**BHARAT PENSIONERS'
SAMAJ**

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



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No BPS/SG/DOT/025/02

Date:13.06.2025

To

Shri A. Robert Jerard Ravi.

CMD BSNL

Shri Anand Khare

Member (Services)

Department of Telecommunications

Shri Alok Shukla

Sr DDG(Pers)

Personnel Division

Smt. Rekha Singh

Sr. DDG(PG)-

Public Grievance (PG) Division

Subject: Arbitrary Denial of Notional Increment to VRS Retirees—
Demand for Immediate Rectification and Equal Treatment

Reference:

1. Hon'ble Supreme Court Judgment dated 11.04.2023 in C.A. No. 2471/2023
2. Department of Telecommunications Order dated 26.10.2024 on the subject "Grant of Notional Increment to Retired/Retiring officials"
3. BSNL Corporate Office Director (HR) Communication dated 23.11.2019
4. CAT Chandigarh Judgment in OANo. 443/2020 dated 02.02.2024
5. BSNL Letter dated 10.03.2025 on the same subject

Respected Sir/Madsam,

On behalf of over 10 lakh pensioners affiliated with Bharat Pensioners Samaj (BPS) through 241 pensioners associations across the country, we record our strongest protest against the arbitrary and discriminatory denial of notional increment to Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) retirees by BSNL and DoT, contrary to explicit judicial pronouncements and administrative instructions.

Despite clear rulings by the **Hon'ble Supreme Court of India** (C.A. No. 2471/2023 dated 11.04.2023) and **CAT Chandigarh** (OANo. 443/2020 dated 02.02.2024), which unequivocally affirm that *every retiree*, irrespective of mode of retirement, is entitled to notional increment upon completion of one full year of service, recent communications by BSNL dated 10.03.2025 have unjustly excluded VRS retirees by misinterpreting an isolated term "superannuation" from DoT's Order dated 26.10.2024.

Let it be recorded unambiguously that:

· **Rule 37(A)**, invoked during VRS-2019, guarantees parity of treatment between VRS retirees and normal retirees for pension and administrative purposes.

· The **Supreme Court** has not drawn any distinction between modes of retirement in granting notional increment.

· DoT's own order (Ref. 2) and BSNL's communication dated 23.11.2019 (Ref. 3) reaffirmed uniformity of status between VRS and superannuated employees.

The insertion of such a **rider**—nowhere envisaged in the governing judicial or administrative frameworks—amounts to a deliberate violation of the Hon'ble Court's directive and an **injustice of constitutional proportions**, particularly affecting those who opted for VRS in national interest as part of government-approved restructuring.

BPS Demands:

1. Immediate issuance of clarificatory instructions declaring VRS retirees eligible for notional increment as per the Supreme Court verdict and DoT's operative directions.

2. Withdrawal of BSNL letter dated 10.03.2025, which has incorrectly and unlawfully excluded VRS retirees based on a non-existent restriction.

3. Institutional accountability: Fix responsibility on officers responsible for misinterpreting judicial and administrative directives and ensure deterrent action against recurrence of such discriminatory practices.

It is extremely distressing that after decades of service to the nation, retirees must again struggle for their legitimate rights. We urge the Department to act swiftly and justly to uphold the rule of law, administrative fairness, and dignity of pensioners.

We expect your urgent intervention and resolution to prevent this issue from escalating further in the administrative and judicial fora.

Yours sincerely,

S.C. Maheshwari

Secretary General

Bharat Pensioners Samaj (BPS)

Copy to: 1. Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, Cabinet Minister, MOC (moc-office.gov.in) with request for his kind intervention.

2. Joint Secretary G O I – DOP & PW For n/a at his level please.

S.C. Maheshwari