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**BHARAT PENSIONERS'
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Pensioners' Day Greetings

National Pensioners' Day & the Legacy of the D.S. Nakara Judgment

17th December, 2025



Today, Central and State Government pensioners across the country are able to live with dignity and peace, receiving their pensions regularly. This secure and respectful life is not merely a benefit—it is the result of the visionary courage and selfless struggle of one extraordinary individual: 🌸 **Shri D. S. Nakara** 🌸. On this solemn occasion, we remember him with deep gratitude and reverence.

Born on 8 April 1914 in Mumbai, Shri Nakara joined the Central Government Defence Accounts Service after qualifying the Civil Services Examination in 1937. In the years prior to 1977, retired employees were subjected to severe financial hardship, surviving on meagre pensions that eroded rapidly with inflation. Although the Government announced a liberalised pension scheme in 1979, its benefits were restricted only to those in service at that time, unfairly excluding earlier retirees.

Shri D. S. Nakara could not accept this injustice. With unwavering determination, he approached the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India through a public interest petition. His perseverance culminated in a historic judgment delivered on 17 December 1982, which transformed the lives of millions of pensioners.

The Supreme Court emphatically declared that pension is not a bounty or charity, but a right earned for past service. It affirmed that pensioners are entitled to Dearness Allowance/Relief, health benefits, and death-related compensation, on par with serving employees. The judgment recognized pension as a vital social security measure, essential to protect senior citizens from poverty and neglect in old age.

This landmark verdict stands as a monument to Shri Nakara's foresight and courage. For pensioners across India, he remains a revered figure—a true benefactor whose legacy will endure forever. In honour of this judgment and his invaluable contribution, 17 December is observed nationwide as National Pensioners' Day.

Shri D. S. Nakara lived a long and meaningful life of 95 years, and passed away on 29 July 2009. On behalf of the pensioner community, we bow in deep respect and offer our heartfelt tribute to this 🌸 महान कर्मयोगी 🌸.

We appeal to all friends and well-wishers to share this message widely, so that future generations may also remember and honour the man who secured dignity and justice for pensioners.

With warm regards and respectful remembrance,

Avinash Rajput
Secretary General, BPS