

FROM EDITOR'S DESK



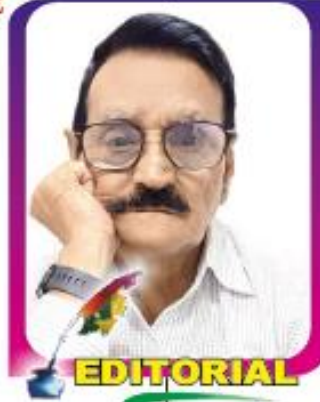
WHO WILL HEAR THE VOICE OF THE BSNL PENSIONERS?

Nearly Nine years have passed since the pension revision of BSNL/MTNL pensioners became due. What began as a legitimate demand has gradually turned into a painful struggle against time itself. Today, more than **4.5 lakh BSNL/MTNL pensioners** continue to wait—not merely for a financial benefit, but for justice.

The most painful reality is that a large number of these pensioners are now above **80 years of age**. Many have crossed 85, while others are in their nineties. They live with deteriorating health, mounting medical expenses and limited financial resources. Every passing month silently reduces the number of pensioners who may ultimately benefit from a favourable decision.

We have the highest respect and faith for our judicial system, but Courts decide according to law, and their judgments deserve our utmost respect. Yet judicial proceedings inevitably take time, and **time is the one thing our oldest pensioners no longer possess**. Means justice delayed is justice denied comes reality for us.

For an octogenarian pensioner, another round of litigation may not merely mean another legal proceeding—it may mean another chapter of waiting that he or she might never live to see completed.



From the very beginning, **BDPA(India)** has consistently mentioned that pension revision should be as per 3rd P.R.C. Recommendations and in no case it should be linked with the financial condition of BSNL. Pension is not paid by BSNL; it is the responsibility of the Government of India. Pension is deferred wages earned through decades of dedicated public service and must be revised as a matter of justice, independent of the Company's financial performance.

Today, the circumstances have changed significantly. BSNL has returned to the path of financial recovery. As per press statement made on 13th July, 2026 by Dr. Chandra Sekhar Pemmasani, Hon. Minister for State for Communication, BSNL revenue from operations has risen by 10% to Rs.4418 Crore in the first Quarter of fiscal year 2026. Whether the exact figure is not the central issue. The important fact is that the argument of financial incapacity no longer carries the same force or weightage.

At the same time, discussions regarding the implementation of the **Third Pay Revision Committee (3rd PRC)** are once again gathering momentum. This changing scenario provides a valuable opportunity to resolve the long-pending issue of pension revision through an administrative and policy decision instead of prolonged litigation.

This is, therefore, a humble appeal to all leader of the pensioners' movement.

Before deciding to file another Special Leave Petition (SLP) before the Hon'ble Supreme Court, let us pause and reflect on the realities before us. Every legal remedy has its place, but every additional year of litigation also carries a human cost. Thousands of ageing pensioners simply cannot afford to wait indefinitely.

Let us ask ourselves one simple question:

Will another prolonged legal battle provide timely relief, or will it postpone justice beyond the lifetime of thousands of pensioners?

This is not an appeal to surrender any legal right. It is an appeal to reassess our strategy in the light of changed circumstances. Constructive dialogue with the Government, united representation by all pensioners' organizations, and sustained efforts for an administrative settlement may now offer a more meaningful and timely solution.

Leadership is measured not merely by the number of cases filed before courts but by the ability to secure justice for those whom we represent. Every decision carries a moral responsibility. If, however well-intentioned, our actions prolong the agony of lakhs of elderly pensioners, history will remember not only our intentions but also its consequences.

While prolonged delays may incidentally benefit the Government exchequer, the pensioners' fraternity will never forget decisions that, directly or indirectly, denied timely justice to an ageing generation.

Many of our colleagues have already left this world with their rightful pension revision still unrealized. Every obituary reminds us that we are racing not merely against legal procedures, but against time itself.

The next generation of BSNL pensioners is watching us. Let us leave them not a legacy of endless litigation, but a legacy of wisdom, unity and practical statesmanship.

Let us not win a legal battle after losing an entire generation of pensioners.

The voice of our senior pensioners is growing weaker with every passing day. Let us hear that voice today—before it becomes a silence that history will never forgive.

With Independent Day Greetings,

17-07-2026

Dinesh D. Mistry

General Secretary

BSNL & DOT Pensioners Association (India)