BSNL & DOT PENSIONERS ASSOCIATION (INDIA)
CENTRAL HEAD QUARTER, AHMEDABAD - 380 001.
(Registered under Indian Trade Union Act 1926. Regn No.G-6456)
(Affiliated to Bharat Pensioners Samaj, New Delhi)
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Thomas John K
All India President
Dinesh D. Mistry
General Secretary

NO. BDPA(I)/PEN-RVSN/3rd PRC2026/APPEAL Dated 5th November, 2026

MOST URGENT – PERSONAL INTERVENTION REQUESTED

To,
Hon'ble Shri Narendrabhai Modi Ji,
Prime Minister of India,
South Block,
New Delhi – 110001.

Subject: REMINDER – Request for one-time relaxation/special dispensation from the Affordability/PBT condition for revision of pension of absorbed BSNL/MTNL pensioners w.e.f. 01.01.2017 – Urgent need for a policy-level decision by the competent authority.

Reference: Our detailed representation No. BDPA(I)/PEN-RVSN/3rd PRC2026/APPEAL dated 14.09.2026 addressed to your good office.

Most Honoured Shri Modi Ji,
Jay Shree Krishna,

With profound respect, we wish to invite your kind attention once again to our above-referred representation, wherein we had elaborately explained the prolonged denial of pension revision to absorbed BSNL/MTNL pensioners w.e.f. 01.01.2017, primarily on account of the Affordability/PBT condition prescribed under the Third Pay Revision framework.

We are constrained to submit this reminder in view of the latest developments following the tripartite meeting of the AUAB with the Secretary, Department of Telecommunications and CMD, BSNL, held at 1815 hours on 04.11.2026 at Sanchar Bhavan, New Delhi.

1. OUTCOME OF THE AUAB MEETING – THE ISSUE STILL REQUIRES A POLICY DECISION:

1. The meeting was attended by senior officers of DoT and BSNL, and detailed discussions took place exclusively on the Third Pay/Wage Revision issue.
2. During the discussions, the Secretary DoT expressed the view that the Affordability Clause is a government policy and that any deviation by DoT alone would have wider implications for hundreds of other PSUs.
3. AUAB submitted detailed arguments and supporting documents seeking special consideration, particularly highlighting the hardships caused by the prolonged delay in pay revision and the exceptional circumstances of BSNL.
4. Significantly, on certain specific submissions, the Secretary DoT directed JS (Administration), DoT and CMD, BSNL to undertake a detailed examination and submit the relevant details. He also acknowledged the genuine difficulties and hardships arising from the delay, while indicating that the matter could be considered at the level of the Hon'ble Minister of Communications.
5. AUAB accordingly requested that a proposal for waiver of the Affordability Clause be initiated, leaving the final decision to the competent authority. A meeting with the Hon'ble Minister of Communications was also requested, and the Secretary DoT assured that efforts would be made to arrange it shortly, subject to the Minister's availability.

6. We appreciate the patient hearing and positive approach of the Secretary DoT. However, these developments also establish that the issue cannot be finally resolved through administrative discussions alone. What is now required is a definite policy decision at the appropriate level of the Government.

2. THE AFFORDABILITY CLAUSE SHOULD NOT BECOME AN INDEFINITE BARRIER TO PENSION REVISION:

1. We respectfully reiterate that the question of granting a one-time relaxation/special dispensation from the Affordability/PBT condition is essentially a policy matter requiring consideration at the competent level of the Government, including the Union Cabinet wherever necessary.
2. The Affordability Clause was designed to assess the financial capacity of CPSEs in the context of pay revision of serving employees. It is a matter deserving serious reconsideration whether the same financial yardstick should indefinitely prevent pension revision for employees who have already completed their service and earned their pension.
3. Pension is the financial consequence of past service. Retired employees have no control over the present profitability, losses, commercial policies, tariff structures or financial performance of BSNL.
4. Our representation dated 14.09.2026 has already explained the financial and administrative distinctions between pay revision of serving employees and pension revision of retired employees, including the existing Government pension-liability framework.
5. We are not asking the Government to disregard financial discipline. We are requesting a one-time policy dispensation in exceptional circumstances so that pensioners are not made to suffer indefinitely because of the present financial position of their former organization.

3. BSNL IS A UNIQUE 100% GOVERNMENT-OWNED PSU WITH NATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. There is another fundamental aspect which deserves the special attention of the Government.
2. BSNL is a 100% Government-owned Public Sector Undertaking, entrusted not merely with commercial operations but also with the responsibility of implementing Government policies and fulfilling important national telecommunications objectives.
3. In the process, BSNL has continued to provide essential telecommunications and value-added services, including services in commercially unviable and remote areas, often carrying financial burdens and incurring losses in the larger public and national interest.
4. It would therefore be unfair to judge the financial performance of BSNL exclusively by commercial parameters without taking into account the social obligations, policy directions and public-service responsibilities entrusted to it by the Government.
5. The financial consequences of such Government-directed responsibilities cannot simply be attributed to the organization or its workforce, much less made a ground for denying legitimate benefits to its employees and pensioners.
6. We also respectfully invite attention to the Department of Posts, another essential public-service organization of the Central Government, which continues to discharge its nationwide responsibilities despite its financial burden and operating deficit. Its employees have received the benefits of the 7th Central Pay Commission.
7. This comparison deserves consideration while examining the exceptional circumstances of BSNL and its workforce. BSNL employees and pensioners should not be placed at a disadvantage merely because their organization has been constituted as a PSU, particularly when it continues to discharge important public responsibilities on behalf of the Government.
8. The unique position of BSNL as a 100% Government-owned telecom PSU, its national contribution and its public-service obligations deserve due weightage while considering the proposed one-time relaxation.

4. NINE YEARS OF WAITING – AN URGENT HUMANITARIAN CONCERN:

1. The pension revision has remained pending w.e.f. 01.01.2017. The affected pensioners have already waited for nearly ten years.

2. Most of these pensioners are now in their seventies and eighties. Their medical expenditure and essential household expenses have increased substantially, while their purchasing power has steadily diminished.
3. Unlike serving employees, pensioners have no opportunity for future increments, promotions or career progression. Their pension is their principal, and often their only dependable, source of livelihood.
4. Every further year of delay is not merely an administrative delay. It is a year of the remaining life of an elderly pensioner.
5. We are not seeking charity. We are seeking a fair and reasonable revision of the pension earned through decades of service to the nation.

5. OUR HUMBLE REQUEST FOR YOUR PERSONAL INTERVENTION:

In view of the foregoing facts and the developments in the AUAB meeting, we earnestly request your good office to kindly:

1. Take cognizance of our detailed representation dated 14.09.2026 and the subsequent developments in the AUAB meeting held on 04.11.2026.
2. Direct the Department of Telecommunications to formulate and place a suitable proposal for one-time relaxation/waiver of the Affordability/PBT condition for pension revision of eligible absorbed BSNL/MTNL pensioners w.e.f. 01.01.2017 before the competent policy-making authority.
3. Kindly ensure that the matter is brought to the personal attention of the Hon'ble Minister of Communications and, wherever required, placed before the Union Cabinet for an appropriate policy decision.
4. Direct that the matter be pursued within a definite time frame so that further administrative examinations and inter-departmental discussions do not indefinitely postpone the final decision.

Hon'ble Sir, we fully appreciate the Government's concern for financial discipline and the financial sustainability of BSNL. At the same time, we sincerely believe that a special dispensation in these exceptional circumstances would be an act of fairness, social justice and recognition of the contribution made by generations of BSNL employees towards building and maintaining the nation's telecommunications infrastructure.

We earnestly hope that your personal intervention will help move this long-pending matter beyond administrative deliberations and bring it to the appropriate policy-making authority for a final and favourable decision.

"Let the principles of financial discipline and fairness be applied in a manner that protects the legitimate interests of serving employees as well as pensioners, ensuring that the contribution of those who have already completed their service to the nation is also duly recognized and their long-pending pension revision receives a just and favourable consideration. "

With profound respect and hope,

Yours sincerely,

(D. D. MISTRY)
General Secretary
BSNL & DOT Pensioners Association (India)
Ahmedabad

Encl.:

1. Copy of our representation dated 14.09.2026 addressed to the Hon'ble Prime Minister.
2. Copy of the AUAB update regarding the meeting held on 04.11.2026.

Copy for kind information and necessary intervention to:

1. Hon'ble Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, Minister of Communications, Government of India, New Delhi.

2. Shri Amit Agrawal, Secretary, Department of Telecommunications, New Delhi.
3. Shri Avinash Rajpur, Secretary General, Bharat Pensioner Samaj, New Delhi.