



K. Jaya Prakash
 General Secretary

NU/BSNLW/CHQ/TN

18.12.2021

To

Sri.P.K.Purwar,
 CMD, BSNL,
 New Delhi – 110 001.

Sri.K.Rajaraman, IAS
 Secretary, DOT,
 New Delhi – 110 001.

Respected Sir,

Sub : Parliament Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes – “Study of atrocity cases against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes with respect to implementation of the Prevention of Atrocities Act, 1989” regarding release of retirement benefits to those SC/ST employees whose caste certificate is pending verification.

Ref : Ninth Report on Ministry of Personnel, PG & Pensions presented to Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on 13.12.2021.

An extract of Para 3 of the minutes dated 18.03.2021 of the committee on the Welfare of SC/ST of Lok Sabha Secretariat in which Sri.Anshu Prakash Secretary, DoT and Sri.P.K.Purwar, CMD, BSNL attended as witnesses, is given below :

“The Committee made it clear that as per Supreme Court direction and DoPT guidelines those ST certificates should not be verified which were issued before 1995 and also that the verification process should be complete within six months of joining of a person. The guidelines / instructions issued by the DoPT on the subject may be compiled earnestly by all the concerned Department / Organisations.

On this matter a copy of the OM of the Lok Sabha Secretariat, Parliamentary Committee on the welfare of SC/STs OM No : 57/1/1/SCTC/2019 dated 24.12.2020 is also enclosed. In Para 2 of this letter it is stated that,

“Keeping in view the above mentioned facts, it is requested that the concerned State Level Scrutiny Committees be directed to verify the ST caste certificates

of only those employees who were appointed after the year 1995 and the process of verification should be completed within two months. The Action Taken Report in this regard may please be forwarded to this Secretariat at the earliest but not later than 18.02.2021 so that the same may be placed before the Committee.

From the above it is crystal clear that the ST Certificates issued before 1995 should not be verified. All the cases pending with the SLSC Tamilnadu Govt. pertains to the period prior to 1995 appointees. For want of verification reports from the SLSC more than 40 cases of retirees, the retirement benefits are withheld and they are suffering mentally, financially and also physically. In some cases the retirees died of heart ailments due to mental torture. VRS optees of this community employees are not paid the assured Ex-Gratia. **It is a total breach of trust by the BSNL Administration.** Payment of DCRG, Pension etc are from the consolidated fund of India by the DOT. Therefore the DOT is having the responsibility of following DOPT, DOP & PW orders in this regard.

Further all these retirees were recruited by the DOT and absorbed in BSNL on the corporatization and therefore their ST Community certificates should have been verified before their appointment or immediately after appointment but before confirmation, as per the standing orders of the DOPT as incorporated in the Brochure on Reservation for SCs and STs in Services.

Actually in many cases these certificates were verified by the DOT, but the field units have failed to make entries in the service books and paste the same therein. It may please be noted that many of them were recruited under special recruitment for STs and therefore there is no chance of non-verification of the communal status. It is the failure of the Appointing Authorities to make entries in the service book to this effect. A few cases of such nature will be intimated in due course shortly by this union.

The BSNL Authorities in T.N. Circle have simply forwarded the alleged complaints to the SLSC, TN Govt. without asking the complainant to prove his complaint as per G.O. TN Letter dated 07.07.1983 from the Additional Secretary to Government Social Welfare Department, Madras Copy of which is incorporated in the Swamy's Compilation on Reservation and concessions.

So the benefit of doubt should be given to the affected retired employees and the retirement benefits settled without delay as per the Govt. orders. If any adverse or negative report is received later the Govt. is free to initiate post retirement proceedings under Rule 9 of CCS (Pension) Rules 1972.

This Association request the CMD, BSNL and Secretary DOT to kindly cause issue of necessary instructions to the CGM, T.N. to withdraw all such pending certificates from the SLSC, TN Govt. and settle the retirement benefits without any further delay.

We hope that you will do the need at an early date.

Thanking you,

With regards,

Yours sincerely



(D.CHANDRASEKARAN)

General Secretary (Offg.)

Copy to

- 1) The CGM, BSNL, T.N. Circle, Chennai-6.
- 2) The GS, BDPA(I), CHQ at Ahmedabad.
- 3) The Circle Secretary, BDPA(I), T.N. Circle.
- 4) The Chairperson, Parliamentary Committee on the Welfare of SC/STs, Lok Sabha Secretariat, New Delhi-1.
- 5) Sri.A.Raja, MP and the Member of the above committee for information.