

No. 40-34/2018-Pen(T)
Government of India
Ministry of Communications
Department of Telecommunications
(Pension Section)

516, Sanchar Bhawan
20, Ashoka Road, New Delhi
Dated: 27th December, 2018

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Strike notice served by all Unions & Associations of BSNL(AUAB) against the management of BSNL to go on strike w.e.f 03.12.2018 – status regarding issues pertaining to pension section

The undersigned is directed to refer to your section OM No. 24-04/2016-SR dated 20.12.2018 vide which status has been sought as above and to state that latest development/ status of the 2 issues pertaining to this section is as follows:

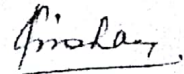
(iii) *Revision of Pension to BSNL retirees w.e.f 01.01.2017*

The case was referred to DoP&PW to examine whether 3rd PRC may be extended to Combined Service Pensioners of BSNL/ MTNL without implementing the same for serving employees. In response, DoP&PW intimated that the circulars issued for pension revision so far (based on 7th CPC) are applicable to Central Government Civilian Pensioners who are drawing pension in the CDA Pay scales and hence they had requested DoT to clarify as to how pension would be revised in the case of BSNL/ MTNL pensioners who are drawing pension in IDA pay scale. The clarifications sought by DoP&PW were replied vide this office ID Note No. 47-63/2015-Pen(T) dated 27.11.2018(copy enclosed) to further examine the issue. Reply from DoP&PW is awaited in this regard.

(iv) *Payment of pension contribution by BSNL as per government rule*

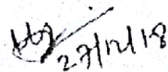
The issue regarding methodology of calculation and payment of monthly pension contribution by BSNL was taken up with the Department of Expenditure vide this office ID Note No. 40-32/2011-Pen(T)(Pt) dated 30.11.2018(copy enclosed) in reply to which DoE has sought clarification vide its ID Note No. 1(2)/E-V/2014 dated 19.12.2018(copy enclosed) regarding certain points on the instant issue. Since most of these points pertain to BSNL, same are being examined in consultation with BSNL for onward reply to DoE for further examination.

Encl: As above



(K.S. Dahiya)
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India
Ph. 011 2303 6260

To,
US(SCT), DoT



Consultant (SR)

No. 62-2/2018-SU(Pt. 3) (E 86677)
Government of India
Ministry of Communications
Department of Telecommunications

Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi-110001
Dated 7th January, 2019

OFFICE MEMORANDUM


Subject: Notice for agitational programmes by All Unions and
Associations of BSNL.

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Reference is invited to SR Section O.M. No. 24-4/2018-SR dated 20th
December, 2018 on the above mentioned subject.


2. The present status on demands raised by the Unions pertaining to JS(A)
Wing, i.e. demands mentioned at (a), (b) and (c) in the above mentioned reference,
is enclosed.

Encl. As above.


21/1/19
(Pawan Gupta)
Director (PSU-I)
Tel. No. 2303 6019

To

DDG (SR), DoT


07.1.19

14(SR&R)

Status on demands raised by All Unions and Associations of BSNL pertaining to JS(A) Wing

(a) Implementation of 3rd Pay Revision with 15% fitment.

Executives:

Proposal has been received from BSNL for revision of pay scales of only executives w.e.f. 01.01.2017 under 3rd PRC recommendations, by relaxing the affordability criteria. Status on the issue is as follows:

- i. Comments were sought from the Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) regarding the proposal of BSNL as to whether the affordability criteria can be relaxed for implementing pay scale revision in BSNL as per 3rd PRC in view of the justifications given by BSNL. DPE vide their O.M. dated 18.04.2018 has rejected the BSNL proposal as it does not fall under the category for 2017 pay revision due to the affordability clause and has suggested that any relaxation/ amendment in the extant guidelines would require the approval of the Cabinet. Further, DPE vide their O.M. dated 12.06.2018 has clarified that while assessing the affordability for 2017 pay revision, instead of taking into account the PBTs of the FY 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16, the average PBT of the immediate last three financial years of the implementing year, i.e. 2015-16, 2016-17 & 2017-18 needs to be taken into consideration, if the pay revision is being implemented during the FY 2018-19. DPE has requested all the administrative Ministries/ Departments to examine the pay revision proposals of CPSEs in the light of these guidelines and to ensure that the same are followed in letter and spirit.
- ii. On examination of the proposal, file was referred to IFD for their views/ inputs. To make a detailed analysis to work out the total financial impact, Finance Division at first, had sought further information regarding financial impact to BSNL, affordability, improvement if any in operations of BSNL etc. Comments were obtained from BSNL in this regard and along with inputs of PSU-I Division, the file was again referred to IFD. IFD has again returned the file to re-examine the proposal in consultation with BSNL and to submit a concrete viable proposal with a detailed analysis on the points observed by IFD during their examination of the proposal. The same was obtained from BSNL and forwarded to Finance Wing. Finance Wing has further observed that BSNL has projected post commissioning annual operation maintenance as an alternative financial mechanism without quantifying estimates, the likelihood of revenue generation etc. hence BSNL has to quantify/ workout/ estimate the revenue generation in this regard. BSNL has been requested vide letter dated 19.12.2018 to clarify on these issues.

Non-Executives:

Regarding wage revision of non-executives (8th round of wage negotiations), DPE vide their O.M. dated 24.11.2017 had issued guidelines to CPSEs to negotiate wage revision for their non-executives keeping in view affordability and financial sustainability. CPSEs are required to revise the wages after negotiations and to intimate to the administrative Department about the arrived wage settlement for ensuring conformity with approved parameters. This was intimated to BSNL vide our letter dated 27.04.2018. It is now for the BSNL management to implement wage revision for their non-executive employees.

(b) Allotment of 4 G spectrum to BSNL as per the proposals submitted by the BSNL management.

- i. BSNL has submitted a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for deployment of 4G Services, with government support, having a total project cost of Rs. 25697.47 Cr. BSNL has proposed that the upfront payment of spectrum may be funded by the Government through equity infusion of Rs. 6652.98 Cr. BSNL has also requested to waive off submission of Financial Bank Guarantee (FBG) which is required by DoT for payment of spectrum in installments.
- ii. Keeping in view of the present industry scenario, the Department is of the view that BSNL should provide 4G services in order to remain active in the industry. BSNL has been incurring huge losses since FY 2009-10 and is not in a position to invest such large amount towards spectrum payment to launch 4G services.
- iii. This item is also a part of the revival plan of BSNL on which a report from IIM, Ahmedabad is expected by end of January 2019.
- iv. As per the suggestion received from the Department of Expenditure, a note in this regard has been prepared for appraisal of the Digital Communications Commission (DCC).
- v. On the basis of comments received from WPC Wing on queries raised by NITI Aayog, the file is under submission for approval of DCC Note.

(c) Settlement of left out issues of the 2nd Pay Revision Committee.

- i. BSNL vide their letter dated 14.07.2016 had sought approval of this Department for implementation of superannuation pension scheme in respect of directly recruited employees of BSNL.
- ii. The proposal was examined in consultation with Finance Wing and the Department had concurred with the proposal as submitted by BSNL for extending a Superannuation Pension Scheme in respect of directly recruited employees of BSNL, wherein BSNL as an employer would be contributing 3% of Basic Pay plus DA per month and would create a trust for management of the superannuation pension fund. Also, requisite approval/ clearance from various statutory bodies as well as Income Tax authorities would be obtained by BSNL before launch of the scheme. The scheme would be effective from the date of approval by the BSNL Board.
- iii. It is now for the BSNL management to implement the Scheme and DoT has no further role. After issue of the letter of concurrence to BSNL on 29.09.2016, no further reference has been received from BSNL in this regard.
