

ALL INDIA BHARAT SANCHAR NIGAM LIMITED OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

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No. AIBSNLOA/CHQ/2020/ 19

Dated: 23rd June 2020

To

Shri P.K.Purwar, Chairman and Managing Director, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, New Delhi-110001.

Subject: Modifications in the procedure for the outdoor medical claim for BSNL employees (Serving / Retired) – Request for withdrawal of instructions issued vide BSNL CO vide letter BSNL letter No.BSNL/Admn.1/15-12/18 dated 8.5.2020 –regarding

Ref: Our letter No.AIBSNLOA/CHQ/2020/04 dated 18th May 2020

R/Sir,

This is in continuation of our letter cited under reference wherein we had pointed out that reducing the ceiling for outdoor medical claim with vouchers from 23 days to 15 days will adversely affect the serving employees as well as the retired employees because of the cost of outdoor medical treatment, including the cost of medicines, is growing alarmingly very high every year.

- 2. We had also pointed out that in respect of retired employees, no cognizance has been paid to the fact that the original order issued in 2003 stipulating "Basic Pay + DA" of last month of service **is no more valid**. This was subsequently **modified with the approval of BSNL Board** and Orders issued vide No. BSNL/Admn.I/14-2/09 dated 08.09.2010 (Copy enclosed).
- 3. While the BSNL order No. BSNL/Admn.I/14-2/09 dated 08.09.2010 provided for **Basic Pay** + **DA** on the date of retirement <u>only for</u> claims without vouchers, the same order allowed "Basic pay drawn + **DA** applicable in the month of April of the Financial Year for which the claim pertains to" those who claim reimbursement with vouchers. This was intended to remove disparity in the ceiling amount, in respect of employees retiring at different points of time.
- 4. The said order went on to further provide two options for those who retired prior to 1.1.2007.

Option 1 stipulated that the "amount reimbursable shall be limited to an amount equivalent to 25 days of the basic pay (which will be freezed at the minimum of the revised pay scale) + **DA** as applicable in the month of April of the financial year for which the claim pertains to".

Option 2 allowed the ceiling of "an amount equivalent to 25 days of Basic Pay drawn at the time of retirement and **DA** as applicable for the month of April of the financial year for which the claim pertains to, in the pre-revised scale."

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Therefore, the present BSNL order No. BSNL/Admn.1/15-12/18 dated 8.5.2020 fixing the ceiling with Basic Pay + DA on date of retirement, contravenes the BSNL order dated 8.9.2010 issued with the approval of the BSNL Board.

5. We, therefore, request you to cause the review of the orders dated 8.5.2020 and issue of fresh orders allowing calculation of the ceiling with **Basic Pay + DA** as applicable for the month of April of the financial year for which the claim pertains to, both for serving and retired employees along with the two options available for those who retired prior to 1.1.2007. The reduction in the ceiling limit to 15 days may also be reconsidered in view of the present pandemic condition and the ever-rising cost of medicines.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Rakesh Sethi) General Secretary

Encl: As above

Copy to: 1. Shri Arvind Vanderkar, Director (HR), BSNL

2. Shri Ashutosh Gupta,
General Manager (Admin), BSNL CO