

ALL INDIA BHARAT SANCHAR NIGAM LIMITED OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

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Dated: 18th May 2020

No. AIBSNLOA/CHQ/2020/04

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: BSNL letter No.BSNL/Admn.1/15-12/18 dated 8.5.2020

R/Sir,

We are constrained to draw your kind attention to the BSNL letter cited under reference, notifying modifications in the procedure for outdoor medical claims for BSNL employees (serving /retired). Vide letter under reference, the ceiling for outdoor medical claim with voucher has been drastically reduced from 23 days to 15 days for serving/ retired employees. Further, for retired employees following three options are allowed:

- (i) CGHS,
- (ii) 15 days' pay with vouchers (Basic Pay + DA on date of retirement)
- (iii) Without vouchers flat Rs.1000 per month.
- 2. Reducing the ceiling to 15 days will adversely affect the serving employees as well as the retired employees, as the cost of outdoor treatment including cost of medicines are growing at an alarming rate every year. Apart from this, the order itself appears to have been issued in a hurry, without considering the objective of rolling out the BSNL MRS and previous orders issued under the scheme and without any dialogue with the stakeholders.
- 3. In respect of serving employees, while according to existing instructions, "the annual limit is fixed for a financial year and salary for the first month of the Financial Year will be considered", however, the order under question stipulates that it will be Basic + DA as on 1.4.2020 and this basis will remain the same till further orders.

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- 4. Even for the retired employees, at present, calculation of ceiling limit is done on "DA as applicable for the month of April of the Financial Year for which the claim pertains to." But the order under question seeks to put the wheel back by stipulating that "Basic Pay + DA on date of retirement." Hence, the letter under reference will create a huge disparity between employees retiring at different points of time. This is unfortunate that while issuing this order, 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. In respect of retired BSNL employees, this Order alone is valid and must, therefore, continue to be in operation.
- 5. While already there is an option available for either availing facilities under BSNL MRS or the CGHS, it is not known how a separate option for CGHS in respect of outdoor treatment alone can be offered.
- 6. We, therefore, request you to review the revised orders because of the present medical situation of the country due to Covid-19, and also review the contents of the entire orders and till then withdraw/withhold of instructions issued vide BSNL CO vide letter BSNL letter No.BSNL/Admn.1/15-12/18 dated 8.5.2020.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Rakesh Sethi) 2020

General Secretary

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

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