



BSNL EMPLOYEES UNION

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BSNLEU/318(MH)

03.09.2026

To,

Shri A. Robert J. Ravi,
CMD BSNL,
Bharat Sanchar Bhawan,
Janpath, New Delhi – 110 001

Sir,

Sub: - **Regarding the release of the Ex-gratia amount (VRS-19) and the granting of NEPP promotion to retired BSNL employees whose ST caste certificate verification has not been completed - reg.**

Ref: - **BSNL CO Letter No. BSNL/1-7(11)/2019- Pen/CCA/MH dated 30.07.2026.**

We would like to convey our sincere thanks for taking the positive initiative to resolve the issues faced by the retired employees of Maharashtra Circle, who were suffering due to the problems related to the verification of their caste certificates. Finally, the retired BSNL employees who opted for VRS-2019 have received their pensionary benefits, after undergoing severe hardship and harassment for nearly seven years under the pretext of ST caste validity.

However, it is pertinent to mention that these employees feel that the justice delivered to them remains incomplete, as they have not yet been granted the benefits of Ex-Gratia under VRS-2019 and the due benefits of NEPP promotion. It is unfortunate that, although all these officials had their Vigilance Clearance status as "Clear" as on 31.01.2020 and were permitted to retire under VRS-2019, they have been denied these consequential benefits.

On taking up the matter with the Circle Administration, it has been informed that Maharashtra Circle is not in a position to release the Ex-Gratia amount and implement the NEPP promotions due to the non-finalisation of the disciplinary cases. In this connection, we would like to point out that charge sheets were issued to these employees in 2022 on the grounds of disciplinary action. The reason cited for issuing these charge sheets was that they had failed to apply for caste validity through the Caste Scrutiny Committee of the Maharashtra State, in accordance with certain administrative orders. We strongly feel that, after the settlement of their pensionary benefits, the continued stand of the Circle Administration in withholding the Ex-Gratia amount and NEPP promotions is unjustified.

According to the directives of the DoP&T, BSNL is authorised to conduct only caste verification and not caste validity through any Scrutiny Committee constituted by a State Government. Furthermore, BSNL/DoT was required to conduct caste verification at the time of initial appointment itself, as clarified in the latest DoT OM dated 22.03.2022 and the DoP&T OM dated 29.03.2023.

We are now approaching the end of 2026, yet none of the allegations contained in the charge sheets have been conclusively established. On the contrary, the continued pendency of these cases is causing grave injustice to the charged retired employees and depriving them of the principles of natural justice.

In this connection, the Maharashtra Circle Administration has already sent a letter to the Corporate Office dated 27.06.2026, explaining the latest position of the cases and conveying the request of the unions and associations for their immediate settlement (copy enclosed).

Therefore, we humbly request your kind intervention in the matter and appropriate directions to the Maharashtra Circle Administration for the immediate release of the Ex-Gratia amount under VRS-2019 and implementation of the due NEPP promotions. This will bring long-awaited justice to the affected retired employees and enable the Maharashtra Circle Administration to focus its attention more effectively on the development of BSNL and the welfare of its employees.

We sincerely hope that the matter will receive your sympathetic and urgent consideration.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

[Animesh Chandra Mitra]
General Secretary

Copy to: Dr. Kalyan Sagar Nippani, Director (HR), BSNL, Bharat Sanchar Bhawan, Janpath, New Delhi - 110001