CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE

OF RETIRED TELECOM OFFICERS' WELFARE ASSOCIATION MTNL DELHI

(REGD. S/57799/(Delhi) 2007)

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& RETIRED TELECOM OFFICERS' WELFARE ASSOCIATION MTNL MUMBAI

(REGD.F-37187 (Mumbai) 2008)

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Co-Ord.Committee/2024/3

Email

Dated' 19th Aug'2024

To

Shri. Jyotiraditya Scindia ji Hon'ble Minister of Communications of India, Sanchar Bhavan, New Delhi-110001.

Hon'ble Sir,

Sub:- Request for Removal of the discrimination against about 30000 MTNL Pensioners.

Ref:- Department of Telecom's memo No.11-1/2009-SU-II dated 19th June'2018

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We would introduce ourselves as the Pensioners' Welfare Associations that stand for safeguarding and securing the interests of the retired employees of MTNL.

The DoT's memo dated 19th June'2018, cited in the reference, has discriminated more than 30000 pensioners retired on combined service from MTNL before 01/01/2018 by excluding them in the said orders. The genesis of the issue is as under: -

Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) issued orders for revision of pay of the CPSE employees vide OM No.2 (70)/08-DPE (WC) dated 26/11/2008 as per 2^{nd} PRC. This memo prescribes a fitment formula for revision of the pay on 01/01/2007. The IDA in the fitment formula is 68.8% of basic pay. Subsequently DPE enhanced the rate of IDA in the fitment formula from 68.8% to 78.2% giving the benefit of DA merger of 9.4% vide OM no.2 (70)/08-DPE (WC) dated 02/04/2009.

According to DPE's earlier orders dated 26/11/2008, MTNL revised the pay of the employees on 01/01/2007 with 68.8% IDA neutralisation. The pension of the retired employees on 01/01/2007 was also revised by DoT with the same formula. However, DoT/MTNL did not implement the DPE's later orders dated 02/04/2009 for about 10 years. Employees and Pensioners of MTNL agitated during this period of about 10 years for IDA neutralisation of 78.2% and then DoT issued a flawed orders vide memo No.11-1/2009-SU-II dated 19th June'2018.

As per the said flawed orders of DOT dated 19/06/2018, the added neutralisation of IDA due to DA merger is only 5% instead of 9.4%., that is, the IDA in the fitment formula will be @ 73.8% instead of 78.2%. The effect will be notional on 01/01/2007 but with payment from

01/01/2018. The said flawed orders excluded the 'pensioners on 01/01/2007' as well as 'the employees retired between 01/01/2007 to 01/01/2018 though the notional effect on 01/01/2007 applies to them. There is no valid or banafide reason for these exclusions. Discrimination of about 30000 pensioners retired before 01/01/2018 has resulted due to these exclusions.

Due to the implementation of the DoT's flawed orders dated 19th June'2018, the pension of the employees retired after 01/01/2018 is based on their revised pay with 73.8% IDA neutralisation while the pension of those retired before 01/01/2018 is based on their pay or pension with 68.8% IDA neutralisation. This disparity in pension is bad in law.

The Associations took up the issue with the DoT many times thro letters and informal meetings but in vain. DoT officers whenever we meet them, agree in principle to extend this benefit, but collectively together they side track the issue for more than six years. The combined service pension is governed by CCS pension rules and paid by Central Government from the consolidated fund of India. Despite our absolute entitlement to the pension, the focus of the DoT is drifting, and yet even after six years there is no sign of removal discrimination within a reasonable time. Due to this abnormal delay and bad handling of the issue by DoT, the pensioners are agitated, and their anxiety is growing with every day of protraction of the issue by DoT.

If DoT does not complicate this issue, this is in fact a simple issue and can be solved at once by issuing orders extending the same benefit to the pensioners retired before 01/01/2018.

Therefore, it is requested to intervene in this issue and to cause to issue the orders at once removing the disparity and discrimination inflicted upon the MTNL combined service pensioners retired before 01/01/2018.

With high regards,

Yours faithfully,

·hy mulaw (K.JAWAHAR) Chairman

Co-Ordination Committee.

& President RTOWA Mumbai.

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(A.K. KAUSHIK)

Convenor

Co-Ordination Committee & General Secretary RTOWA Delhi

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Copy to the following officers with a request to cause to issue the orders at once.

- 1. Shri. Neeraj Mittal ji Secrertary (T) DoT
- 2. Shri.Rohit Sharma ji, Member (S) DoT
- 3. Shri. Manish Sinha ji, Member (Fin) DoT
- 4. Shri. Robert Jerard Ravi CMD MTNL/BSNL
- 5. Ms. Roshni Sohni DDG (E) DoT