

CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE
OF RETIRED TELECOM OFFICERS' WELFARE ASSOCIATION MTNL DELHI
(REGN. No.S/57799/(Delhi) 2007)
RETIRED TELECOM OFFICERS' WELFARE ASSOCIATION MTNL MUMBAI
(REGN.No.F-37187 (Mumbai) 2008)
& MAHANAGAR PENSIONERS WELFARE ASSOCIATION MUMBAI
(REGN No.F-79242(M) (Mumbai 2022))

Co-Ordination Committee Email id: - 'certowa@gmail.com'

Co-Ord.Committee/2026/1

Dated 12th Jan'2026

To

S/Shri.Amit Agrawal ji
Secretary(T)
Department of Telecom
New Delhi-110001

Memorandum on explicit inclusion of Pension Revision of BSNL/MTNL Pensioners in the Terms of Reference of 8th CPC

Sub: Request for explicit inclusion of Pension Revision of BSNL/MTNL Pensioners in the Terms of Reference of the Eighth Central Pay Commission (8th CPC)

Hon'ble Sir,

Introduction

We introduce ourselves as Co-Ordination Committee of RTOWA Delhi, RTOWA Mumbai, and MPWA, jointly represent the pensioners of MTNL retired on combined service.

Our Sincere Wishes for a Successful and Productive New Year'2026.

Respectfully we submit this memorandum for judicious consideration.

In this memorandum, the issues raised and the reliefs sought are equally and fully applicable to pensioners of both MTNL and BSNL, since the rules governing pension for both MTNL and BSNL pensioners are the same, namely Rule 37-A of CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972, now incorporated as Rule 37 in the CCS (Pension) Rules, 2021, and since pension revision due on 01/01/2017 has been denied uniformly to both MTNL and BSNL pensioners.

Our genuine grievance and request: -

The pension of MTNL/BSNL pensioners has not been revised after the 7th Central Pay Commission, despite repeated and sustained representations, and despite judicial orders by Hon'Pr.CAT Delhi.

Therefore to ensure a permanent, lawful, and policy-consistent resolution of the issue of pension revision, it is essential that this matter is explicitly included in the Terms of Reference of the 8th Central Pay Commission, since our pension too is governed, administered, and debited to civil service estimates in the same manner as is done for the pension of all Central Civil Services employees.

Background & Chronology

1. Pensioners of BSNL/MTNL were originally Central Government employees and were absorbed w.e.f. 01.10.2000 on corporatisation of telecom services.
2. The terms of absorption, as laid down under Rule 37-A of CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972 (now Rule 37 of CCS Pension Rules, 2021), unambiguously guarantee that retirement benefits shall continue to be governed by CCS Pension Rules, on par with Central Government pensioners.
3. Post absorption, on 01/10/2000, pay in Govt pay scales of absorbed employees was fixed in PSU pay scales with Dearness Relief on IDA pattern. As per Rule 37(15)(a) of CCS Pension Rules, 2021, pension is required to be calculated on PSU pay scales with IDA.

First pension revision post absorption:-

4. The first pension revision after absorption became due on 01.01.2007, following:
 - Pension revision of Central Government pensioners w.e.f. 01.01.2006 (6th CPC), and
 - Pay revision of BSNL/MTNL employees w.e.f. 01.01.2007 (2nd PRC).
5. Accordingly, pension of BSNL/MTNL pensioners was revised w.e.f. 01.01.2007 as per Cabinet Decision dated 29.12.2010, **recognising the principle that pension must be periodically revised to protect its real value.** It is mentioned in the said cabinet decision that the revision fitment factor of 2.194, slightly lower than 2.26 applicable to Central Government pensioners, was adopted solely to avoid anomalies vis-à-vis post-2007 retirees, whose pay was revised on 01/01/2007 with fitment factor of 2.194.

7th CPC:-

6. When the 7th CPC was constituted in 2014, pensioners' associations of BSNL/MTNL repeatedly sought explicit inclusion of pension revision in its ToR. Memoranda were submitted and oral evidence tendered. The Commission, including its Chairman Justice A.K. Mathur, reportedly found prima facie merit in the demand and sought comments from DoT in January 2015.
7. DoT, however, sent its response only in August 2015, by which time the 7th CPC had finalised its recommendations. Consequently, the issue of pension revision of BSNL/MTNL pensioners was not explicitly included in the ToR of the 7th CPC.
8. Thereafter, DoT routed the issue through DPE for inclusion in the ToR of 3rd PRC (December 2015, F. No. 47-63/2015-Pen(T)), but DPE declined, presumably, as CCS Pension Rules are outside the purview of PRCs.

Denial of pension revision by DoT and Judgement orders of Pr.CAT:-

9. DoT denied pension revision which fell due on 01/01/2017, by linking pension revision to affordability and financial performance of BSNL/MTNL even though pension is 100% paid by the Government from the Consolidated Fund of India.
10. Aggrieved by this arbitrary denial, the Associations approached the Hon'ble Principal Bench, CAT, Delhi, which delivered a favourable judgment dated 20.09.2023 directing pension revision, extracts from Para 22 and Para 28 of the Judgement Orders are given under next paragraph.
11. DoT has not implemented the judgment and has instead filed a Writ Petition before the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi in 2024.
12. In 2025, the 8th Central Pay Commission has been constituted, which provides a legitimate and structured opportunity to finally address this long-pending issue.

Justifications for explicit inclusion in the ToR of 8th CPC:-

1. **Statutory Mandate:** Under Rule 37-A of CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972 / Rule 37 of CCS (Pension) Rules, 2021, pensionary benefits of BSNL/MTNL pensioners are a Central Government obligation, payable from the Consolidated Fund of India, wholly governed by the CCS Pension Rules and administered by DoT.
2. **Pension Contribution Paid:** BSNL/MTNL have duly remitted pension contributions to DoT as prescribed by the Government.
3. **Judicial Pronouncement:** The Hon'ble Principal Bench, CAT, Delhi, has held vide paras 22 and 28 of its judgment dated 20.09.2023 in OA No.1271 of 2020 as under:-

Para 22: - "...at the time of absorption in BSNL and MTNL, the erstwhile DoT employees were assured that their service conditions including pension would remain governed by Central Government rules. The Pay Commission recommendations, as accepted by the Government, have been consistently applied to them."

Para 28: - "... The benefits of revision of pension and family pension as notified by the Central Government on the recommendations of the Pay Commission shall stand extended in favour of the applicants, analogous to the revision of such pension in the case of Central Government pensioners."

To address this long pending issue the 8th CPC provides the only legitimate and structured institutional mechanism.

Suggested Text for Inclusion in the ToR of the 8th CPC: -

"To examine the principles governing the structure of pension and other retirement benefits, including revision of pension, in respect of employees drawing pension on IDA pattern from Central Civil Estimates and covered under the CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972/2021."

Prayer: -In view of the above, we respectfully pray for the explicit inclusion of pension revision of BSNL/MTNL pensioners in the Terms of Reference of the 8th Central Pay Commission, to ensure a comprehensive, uniform, and legally sustainable resolution of this long-pending issue.

With high regards,

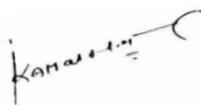
Yours faithfully,



K. Jawahar
Chairman
Co-Ordination Committee
& President RTOWA Mumbai



A.K. Kaushik
Convenor
Co-Ordination Committee
&GS RTOWA Delhi



(K.Haldankar)
General Secretary MPWA

Copy to Shri. Shiv Gopal Mishra ji Secretary, JCM Staff Side with a request to take up the issue

