

Regarding issues pertaining to BSNL employees

SHRI BASTIPATI NAGARAJU (KURNOOL): Respected Chairperson Madam, I would like to bring to the notice of this august House the problems of BSNL employees. BSNL is an important PSU which is serving as the backbone of our telecommunication system. This organisation is serving far-flung areas and remote villages.

BSNL employees served our nation with utmost dedication in the times of natural disasters and pandemics like Covid-19. During Covid, around 388 employees sacrificed their lives but they are not getting recognition for their services. These employees are now facing acute financial hardships and professional problems. Their legitimate demand for implementing 3rd PRC is still pending. Revision of pension of retired BSNL employees is also still unresolved. There is a huge gap in pay, allowances and promotional opportunities between BSNL employees and employees on deputation. They are demoralized as they are not being provided with medical and other facilities. BSNL employees are playing an important role in Aatmanirbhar Bharat by contributing in the development of 4G and 5G technology but their issues are still unresolved.

In this context, I request the Union Government to interfere and resolve the following issues. They should implement third PRC for BSNL employees. The Government may consider giving some exemptions for determining eligibility for non-executive posts. Pension should not be determined on the basis of profit or loss of the organisation. Instead, it should be implemented in line with the pension that is disbursed to Government employees. Though DoT made appointments in BSNL, they may be given one-time appointment under CCS 1972 Rules.

Above all, resolving these issues should not be viewed as a policy decision but it should be seen as giving respect to national service.

Jai Hind, Jai Bharat.