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No. AIBSNLOA/CHQ/2013/138

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Dated: 26th July 2013

To

Shri R. K. Upadhayay, Chairman and Managing Director, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, New Delhi -110001

Subject: Discrepancy in BSNL MS RR in respect of SDE grade of Civil/Electrical/Architecture wing in BSNL - Denial of promotion to EE grade in respect of non-graduates - regarding

Respected Sir,

continuation of our earlier letter No. in 29.5.2013 wherein we had drawn your kind AIBSNLOA/CHQ/2013/118 dated attention to DoPT guidelines vide No. AB 14017/12/87-Estt.(RR), dated 18th March 1988 which states that, "Sometimes the qualifications for junior Group "A" and Group "B" posts may not be insisted upon in full but only the basic qualification in the discipline may be insisted upon, for example, if a degree in Civil Engineering is the qualification prescribed for direct recruits, the promotees may be required to possess at least a diploma Engineering. In such case, the entry under this column may be edited as "Educational Qualification: No but must possess at least", and also requesting to render justice to the diploma holder Executives who represent 50% of the total Executives in Civil/Electrical/Architect wing, by extending the relaxation being given in qualification to all the other streams, for their promotion to Executive Engineer Grade.

2. According to the BSNL MS RR, only Engineering graduates were initially made eligible for promotion to STS grade, although in other streams, relaxation was given to all the existing incumbents. Later the relaxation was extended to Civil/Electrical/Architect disciplines also vide BSNL letter dated 2.7.2010, wherein it was decided to append the existing Note 2 below Schedule IB thus: "However the existing incumbent holding the post of Sub Divisional Engineer or equivalent on a regular basis on the date of notification of P&T BW (Group A) Service Rules 1994 i.e. 06.08.1994 shall continue to be eligible for promotion to the post of Executive Engineer or equivalent STS level post in BSNL, if they possess a Diploma in Engineering in their respective branch from a recognized University/Institution or equivalent." Although this gave relief to some of the diploma holders, the diploma holders who became SDE in these disciplines after 6.8.1994 are being denied the opportunity to be promoted as EEs, which is a clear case of discrimination vis-à-vis the Executives of other streams.

- 3. Although the DoPT instructions as quoted above, are clear, no action has been taken as yet by BSNL tor modify the condition of qualification for promotion to Executive Engineer grade in respect of Civil/Electrical/Architect wings.
- 4. Now, the Hon'ble PCAT, Delhi, in OA-2651/2012 has delivered a judgment on 26.4.2013 that the applicants in the OA may be considered for grant of the benefit in terms of Government of India Instructions dated 26.05.1977 by which diploma in Engineering with ten years technical experience has been recognized as equivalent to degree in Engineering.
- 5. The Hon'ble PCAT Delhi has relied on the instructions of Ministry of Education & Social Welfare (Deptt. Of Education Technical) New Delhi issued on 26.05.1977, which reads as under:-

Sub: Recognition of Technical & Professional Qualifications.

"On the recommendation of the Board of Assessment for Educational Qualifications and recommendation of Defence Director (Tech.), the Government of India have decided to recognize a Diploma in Engineering in appropriate discipline plus total ten years of technical experience in the appropriate fields is recognized as equivalent to Degree in Engineering. It is considered valid for the purpose of selection to Gazetted posts and services under the Central Government or State Government.

"According to these instructions, a diploma in Engineering with ten years of technical experience in the appropriate field is recognized as equivalent to degree in Engineering."

6. In view of the above, we hereby request you to kindly take cognizance of the DoPT letter dated 18th March 1988 mentioned in our earlier letter as well as the above said instructions of Government of India and issue amendment to BSNL MS RR providing relaxation in Educational Qualifications to the SDEs of Civil/Electrical/Architect wings for promotion to Executive Engineer grade.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Rakesh Sethi) General Secretary

Encl: As above

Copy to: 1. Shri A. N. Rai,
Director (HR)
2. Shri A. K. Jain,
Sr. GM (Pers)