

ALL INDIA BHARAT SANCHAR NIGAM LIMITED OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

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No. AIBSNLOA/CHQ/2019/37

Dated: 15th November 2019

To:

Shri P. K. Purwar, Chairman and Managing Director, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, New Delhi.

Subject: Executive Promotion Policy- requirement of mandatory training for related benefits in case of Voluntary Retirement Scheme 2019 (VRS-2019) - Request for issue of clarification – regarding

Ref: BSNL CO letter No: 400-175/2007-Pers.I (Pt.I) dated 23.01.2013 Respected Sir,

We are constrained to seek your kind personal attention to BSNL letter no. 400-29/2007-Pers-I dated 30.5.2007, granting exemption from mandatory training under EPP to those executives who are retiring within the period of two years from the date of upgradation to the higher scale. However, through a issued in 2013 (cited under reference), which is being circulated now, it was clarified that exemption from mandatory training under EPP shall not be applicable to the cases of "voluntary retirement".

- 2. The reason attributed to the decision that exemption shall not be applicable to those taking voluntary retirement is that "Superannuation is a pre-defined point of time in the career of the employee, whereas the timing of voluntary retirement depends upon the choice of the employee who knows the pros and cons of his option before exercising it.
- 3. While this argument may be correct in respect of those taking voluntary retirement under Rule 37 A (11A) of CCS (Pension) Rules 1972, it will not be correct in respect of those opting VRS under BSNL VRS 2019. In the latter case too, the employees do not have the choice of choosing the date of retirement which has been fixed as 31.1.2020.
- 4. Although, passing of the examination by VRS optees will serve no purpose to BSNL as well to the concerned Executives opting for VRS in any manner, we apprehend that the DoT Cell/CCA may insist on proof of passing the examination, while scrutinizing pension papers, as they may not be aware of the relevant BSNL guidelines.
- 5. In view of the above, it is requested to kindly cause issue of clarification on the above mentioned subject to avoid any hardship to those who are taking VRS.

With Kind regards,

Yours Sincerely,

(Rakesh Sethi)

General Secretary

Copy for information and necessary action to: