

Tele Pensioner

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Observe the 16th Foundation Day of AIBDPA befittingly on 21-10-2024.

It was on 21-10-2009, the mighty organization, All India BSNL DOT Pensioners Association was formed in a convention held at New Delhi. Com. V A N Namboodiri, then General Secretary, BSNLEU took the initiative to form the organization as per the decision of its Central Executive Committee Meeting. Stalwarts like Com. M. K. Pandhe, then President, CITU, Com. S. K. Vyas, the legendary leader of the Central Government Employees and Pensioners, then Secretary General, NCCPA, Com.P.V. Chandrasekharan, Com. Ananta Kumar Bhattacharjee, veteran leaders of the P&T Trade Union movement were the important leaders participated.

Yes, AIBDPA has completed a glorious 15 years keeping up the great traditions of P&T Trade Union movement. Most importantly, AIBDPA organised numerous struggles to achieve the genuine demands of BSNL and DoT pensioners. We always maintained good relationship with the employees organizations of BSNL, realising the fact that their support is key to settle the important issues of the pensioners. AIBDPA got affiliated with NCCPA immediately after its formation and plays an important role in the vibrant functioning of NCCPA. When an International Pensioners Organization was formed under the leadership of WFTU in 2014, AIBDPA got affiliated with Trade Union International (Pensioners & Retirees) and continuing with due recognition as a militant affiliate.

AIBDPA is a dominant participant in the struggles launched by NCCPA, Coordination Committee of BSNLEU, AIBDPA & BSNL CCWF, Joint Forum of BSNL MTNL Pensioners Associations and TUI (P&R). Many issues have been settled through negotiations and struggles as well. It was the powerful Sanchar Bhawan March held on 24-08-2022 that compelled the BSNL management to grant medical benefits with arrears withheld for more than three years. It was only AIBDPA which conducted a series of struggles against denial of medical benefits. AIBDPA again intervened effectively when certain bureaucracy in BSNL still denied the medical benefits in many circles in the name of non-submission of option. The marathon discussion with the PGM (Admn), BSNL Corporate office resulted in issuing a clarificatory order on 2nd May, 2023 settling almost all the pending cases. DoT also called a meeting of all the pensioners organizations on 17-10-2022 based on an internal note sheet processed for pension revision.

We are celebrating the 16th Foundation Day on 21-10-2024, yet again amidst the struggles by Joint Forum of BSNL MTNL Pensioners Associations for pension revision and NCCPA for pensionary and CGHS issues, culminating with massive protest action at Delhi Introduction of Unified Pension Scheme instead of restoration of Old Pension Scheme is not acceptable as UPS also is contributory like

NPS. Central Government is not ready to issue orders on restoration of commutation of pension after 10 years 8 months, notional increment for pension to those who completed one full year service but retired without drawing the increment, based on several court orders including Supreme Court. So also is the issues like additional pension at 65 years, FMA @ Rs.3000 and restoration of railway concession to senior citizens.

Our pension revision issue also is being prolonged unjustly though expected to have been settled in 2023 based on the discussion in the meeting held on 17-10-2022. Now, the government has got an excuse of 'subjudice' due to the court proceedings on pension revision. But we can't wait indefinitely for years until the final order from Supreme Court is issued and that is why we are on sustained struggle for an urgent settlement of the burning issue.

BSNL is still in crisis, mainly due to non-launching of 4G/5G, the culprit being none other than the

central government by denying permission to procure the equipment from global vendors. It is also a disturbing news that a proposal is being mooted for a second VRS. The wage revision issue has got momentum with the significant development of joining together of 18 organizations of both executive and Non-Executive and revival of the United Forum of all unions and associations. We feel that the need of the hour is to have a broader unity of all the employees organizations and pensioners organizations forming a Joint Action Council which would be a formidable force to achieve the legitimate demands of wage revision and pension revision.

So let us observe the 16th foundation day by hoisting the red flag, holding meetings / seminars, conducting medical camps, supplying food, cloth etc., to the needy people.

Long Live AIBDPA / Long Live NCCPA / Long Live TUI(P&R)

Unified Pension Scheme – not akin to defined benefit pension scheme

Government has been compelled to make some progress in the NPS due to mounting pressure exerted by employees of Central, State and PSUs, Central Trade Unions and also by pensioners through relentless struggles and also due to the political setback of BJP in the last Parliament election in which BJP could not get majority.

The decision of the Union Cabinet to introduce a Unified Pension Scheme from 01-04-2025 was communicated to the JCM Staff Side leaders in the meeting held on 24- 08-2024, participated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Finance Minister and the designated Cabinet Secretary.

The salient features of the UPS are;

- (1) It is contributory and 10% pay + DA will be recovered from the salary. The government contribution is slightly increased to 18.5% from the 14% in NPS
- (2) .2. Guaranteed pension of 50% of the average of the 12 months emoluments for those completed 25 years service. Prorata pension to those with less than 25 to

10 years service. In the OPS full pension for a minimum 10 years service which is calculated 50% of last pay drawn or average of last 10 months whichever is beneficial to the employee.

- (3) Family Pension will be 60% of the pension.
- (4) Dearness Relief will be there as per the consumer price index for industrial workers
- (5) Apart from Gratuity additional benefit of 1/ 10 th of the salary for every completed six months of service .Remember that 10% of the salary is recovered.
- **(6)** There will be option for the existing NPS pensioners to switch over to UPS.

No additional pension at 80,85,90,95 and 100.No mention about second level pension. Nothing is mentioned about those retired before 01-04-2025.No mention about the periodical pension revision.

So in a nutshell it is just some progress from the NPS. We have to wait for the detailed order to know more about the new scheme. No doubt, we have to continue the struggle until the OPS is fully brought back.

Historical strike of CG employees and workers on 19th September 1968.

- V.A.N.Namboodiri Advisor

56 years are over after the great historical one day token strike of the Central Government employees which took place on 19th September 1968. It was a strike which shook the government and the country. More than 30 lakhs of CG employees participated keeping the country to a standstill. The P&T, Railway and other workers with their strategical position ensured that the entire machinery of the central government was paralyzed.

It was a struggle for the dignity of labour, for the 15th ILC approved Need Based Minimum Wage, for full neutralisation in cost of living through Dearness Allowance and such other demands. The demands were well understood by the workers despite false propaganda of the government. The Indira Gandhi Government used the hated Essential Service Maintenance Act and other such anti-worker ordinances to suppress the struggle, instead of conceding the just demands of the workers.

The workers did not flinch; they had the bitter experience of the 1960 strike which was treated as 'Civil Rebellion' and tried to be suppressed by the then Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru. The workers had understood the anti-worker policy of the government, which was only to support the rich and ignore the justified demands of the workers.

It is to the credit of the Communist Government of Kerala, headed by Com.E.M.S. Namboodiripad, who declared that his government will not use the ESMA against the striking government employees, despite warning of the central government that failure to implement ESMA may result in dismissal of his government. Thousands of workers were arrested, jailed, terminated, suspended, dismissed and heavily victimised. CGE unions were derecognised. The heroism shown by the ordinary workers was beyond description. Many years have passed since then. The workers are now getting DA automatically, whenever there is an increase in the cost of living. Strike victimisation has come down. Usually only dies-non is issued for participation in the strike, except in isolated cases. But still we are to get Minimum Wage implemented as per Dr. Akroyd formula which is around Rs.26,000 at present.

The present Modi government has completely ignored the just demands of the CG employees and workers. Demands like Restoration of Old pension Scheme, Appointment of VIII CPC which is due, Additional pension after 65/70/75 years, Increase in FMA etc. etc are denied without any justification. Hard-won rights of the workers are taken away to favour the corporates and the rich. On this 56th anniversary of the historical strike, we pay homage to the 17 martyrs of the 1968 September 19th Strike, who sacrificed their lives for the future generations. The great leaders who led the strike, the workers who implemented the call – we remember all of them, some still in the movement, all of them retired and some no more with us. We will always remember those comrades who were part of this great struggle and contributed for a better future for the working class. Their inspiring memory will certainly strengthen our future struggle for justice to the CG Employees and Workers!

A welcome turn around-BSNL gains immensely at the cost of massive loss of private telecom companies.

According to the data released by TRAI, 29.3 lakh more customers have reposed faith in BSNL in the month of July, 2024. Yes, it is at the cost of the private telecom companies due to the steep hike in tariff made recently by these private telecom companies. As such, it is reported to be in the first time that Jio lost 7.5lakh customers, Airtel-16.9 lakh and Vodafone- 14.1 lakh. It underlines the importance and relevance of BSNL to provide telecom services to the people at affordable rates. So it is high time to launch 4/5G by BSNL and save the common people from sheer exploitation by the greedy private telecom companies.

Sri Lankan people create history - elect a Marxist as their new President.



Anura Kumara Dissanayake, a communist has been elected as the 10th President of Sri Lanka in the election held on 22-09-2024. The island nation, in 2022 had witnessed large scale popular unrest against the serious economic crisis due to the deep rooted corruption and authoritarian misrule of Rajapakse brothers. Anura Kumara Dissanayake and his party, JVP(Janatha Vimukthi Perumana) was in the forefront of the uprising which resulted in the collapse of the Rajapakse regime.

It is a pleasant surprise that, JVP which got only 3% vote and just one MP in the election held in 2019

ushered to power by securing 5.74 million votes (42%) defeating opposition leader Sajith Premadasa who got 4.53 million votes. The incumbent President Ranil Wickremesinghe was relegated to a distant 3rd with 2.3 million votes.

It is not that much easy to bring back Sri Lanka to an healthy economy and the new President is committed to the common people and workers of Sri Lanka. Dissanayake has exuded confidence that with the support of all he will be able to fulfil the dream of Sri Lankan people. In a message to the people after the election results, Dissanayake said; "The dream can only be realized with a fresh start. The unity of Sinhalese, Tamils, Muslims and all Sri Lankans is the bedrock of this new beginning. The New Renaissance we seek will rise from this shared strength and vision. Let us join hands and shape this future together."

So after Nepal in 1994, Sri Lanka also has turned red. It is a great and encouraging development for all the left and progressive forces all over the world.

Red Salute to the valiant fighters of 1946 and 1960 Central Employees Strikes!

11th July 2024, is the 78th Anniversary of the 1946 P & T strike, which is also considered as part of the Independence Struggle and also the 64th Anniversary of 5 days strike of Central government employees strike in 1960 against which the entire cruel machinery of the government was used to suppress the same.

While the British govt was compelled to negotiate and agree for all the demands raised in the 1946 strike, the govt of free India dealt the 1960 Strike as a political strike and suppressed it using the army and all draconian rules, arresting thousands of

leaders and workers as also dismissing tens of thousands.

Workers cannot be kept silent for long. Another histric strike was organised on 19th September 1968 on the same demands as in 1960. 17 comrades became Martyrs in that strike being shot down, crushed under train, beaten up etc.

No strike is in vain. It is through such heroic strikes that workers have achieved their rightful demands.

Red Salute to the Martyrs who laid down their valuable lives in these struggles! Workers will continue their struggles and move forward in the route shown by them.

July - September 2024

Virtual meeting of the Joint Forum held on 08-07-2024.

A meeting of the Joint Forum of BSNL MTNL Pensioners Associations was held virtually at on 08-07-2024. The following representatives participated in the meeting.

AIBDPA: V A N Namboodiri (Advisor) M R Das(President) K G Jayaraj (General Secretary) BDPA(I): Thomas John (President) D D Mistry (General Secretary) M R Vasisht (AGS) AICGPA HQ PUNE: H F Chaudhari (General Secretary) K Raja (AGS).

The meeting started at 4PM under the presidentship of Com. D D Mistry. Com. K. G. Jayaraj, Convenor welcomed all and initiated the discussion on the agenda items. The Demands Day on 02-07-2024 was a resounding success and there had been unprecedented participation throughout the country including riot sticken Manipur. He also reported the unfortunate indifference of Com. G. L. Jogi, General Secretary, SNPWA who is reported to have told some of his Circle Secretaries that SNPWA is not part of the Joint Forum. Repeated efforts to contact him over phone failed due to non-response. Com. D D

Mistry also tried to contact him but got the same result. However SNPWA comrades have also participated in some circles like Maharashtra, Telengana, Chennai Telephones, Assam etc. MTNL organisations did not participate.

Thereafter all the leaders participated in the discussion and gave valuable suggestions. It was generally felt that Com. G. L. Jogi may have his own reasons and we should continue the efforts to aasociate him with the Joint Forum. So also the MTNL organizations.

The meeting finally took the following decisions.

- 1) CCA Office March at all the Circle on 27-08-2024
- 2) Chalo Delhi Dharna at Jantar Mantar, New Delhi on 12-11-2024.
- It was decided to participate 1000 pensioners and the quota was allocated, AIBDPA -750, BDPA(I)-200, AICGPA HQ PUNE -50.
- Meeting local MPs seeking intervention for settlement of pension revision by handing over the memorandum during August, September, 2024.

Joint Forum meeting held virtually on 15-08-2024.

A meeting of the Joint Forum of BSNL MTNL Pensioners Associations was held virtually at 4 PM on 15-08-2024. The following comrades participated.

- 1. AIBDPA V A N Namboodiri (Advisor) M R Das (President) K G Jayaraj (General Secretary) 2. BDPA(I) Thomas John K(President) D D Mistry (General Secretary)
- 3. SNPWA G L Jogi (General Secretary)
- 4. AICGPA HQ PUNE : H F Chaudhari (General Secretary) K Raja (AGS)
- 5. MREWA: Balvant Singh (President) R.K Mudgal (General Secretary)

Other three organisations from MTNL had expressed difficulty to attend the meeting and agreed to the decisions of the meeting. Com. V A N Namboodiri presided over the meeting. Com. K G Jayaraj, Convenor reported the decisions of the last meeting held on 08-07-2024 in which five organizations could not participate mainly due to the communication gap. He requested the cooperation of all the constituent organizations to make the CCA office March and Delhi Chalo

programs successful. Com. G. L Jogi, GS, SNPWA expressed reservation due to the ongoing court proceedings as his association is one of the petitioner organizations. Com. H. F. Chaudhari, General Secretary then presented the draft notice / memorandum (already circulated on 04-08-2024) addressed to the MOC and Secretary, DoT on the upcoming agitational programs and requested Com. G. L. Jogi to suggest the modifications so that it could be finalised and ensure the participation of all the constituents. All the other participating comrades supported the suggestion of Com. H. F. Chaudhari. Com. G. L. Jogi then responded positively and agreed to make such modifications in consultation with his important functionaries within two days. Therefore it was decided to hold another virtual meeting on 20-08-2024 at 4PM.

It was also decided to defer the March to CCA office on 27-08-2024 to facilitate reasonable time for the agitations after serving the notice.

With vote of thanks by the Convenor, the meeting was concluded at 5.30PM.

Organise the struggles successfully.

[AIBDPA Circular No.2/2024 dated 26.07.2024]

There are several struggles to be organised in the coming months, particularly on pension revision by the Joint Forum of BSNL MTNL Pensioners Associations and also called by NCCPA on pending issues related with the pensionary benefits and CGHS problems.

CHQ heartily congratulate all of you for the sincere efforts which only made the Joint Forum Demands Day on 02-07-2024 a spectacular success with unprecedented participation.

Now the second phase of the Joint Forum is the CCA Office March and Dharna on 27-08-2024. As a Circle wise programme early preparations are to be made in consultation with the available Joint Forum organisations at every circle. The copy of the memorandum may be submitted to the CCA by a delegation of Joint Forum representatives.

Delhi Chalo - Dharna at Jantar Mantar, New Delhi on 12-11-2024.

The third phase of struggle by Joint Forum is the massive Dharna on 12th November, 2024 at Jantar Mantar, New Delhi for which maximum mobilization is to be made for massive participation of pensioners from all over the country. Comrades, we are of the strong opinion that the pension revision issue should not have been left to the uncertainties of the courts paving the way for the antipensioner government to deny and delay our legitimate demand of pension revision pending for the last 91 months. It is true that we have conducted several struggles in the past and no struggle goes unresulted. Therefore we are committed to continue the struggle unless and until our most important and fully justified demand of pension revision is achieved.

Quota for AIBDPA circle wise participation is given hereunder:

Kerala -100, Tamil Nadu -100, Chennai Telephones -25, Karnataka -75, Andhra -75, Telangana -100, Odisha -25, Bihar -25, Chhattisgarh -25, Madhya Pradesh -50, Maharashtra -100, Gujarat -50, Rajasthan -100, NTR Delhi -100, Punjab -75, Haryana -100, UP (W)-100, UP(E)-50, West Bengal -100, Kolkata Telephones -100, CORTO -25 Assam -50, North East 1- 10, North East 2-05, J&K-05.

NCCPA Delhi Dharna is decided to be held from 2 to 5 PM on 13-11-2024. So our comrades should make arrangements to participate on both days. CHQ will arrange accommodation for two days on 11-12 and 12-13 November for the participants of far off circles. However, in case of those who cannot return on 13-11-2024 due to non-availability of train to their destination, accommodation for one more day will be provided. The arrival / departure details of those comrades who require accommodation have to be intimated to CHQ latest by 31-08-2024.

Meeting local MPs and submission of memorandum on Pension Revision.

During the months of August and September, 2024 we have to meet the local MPs, irrespective of their political affiliation and submit the memorandum on Pension Revision to take up the issue at the appropriate level. (Memorandum will be circulated to all of you in due course.)

NCCPA agitational programme.

NCCPA, as per the decision taken in the National Executive held virtually on 19-06-2024 has decided to launch the following agitational programme.

As the issues are aplenty two separate memorandums have been prepared, one on medical issues and second one on pension related issues. The first memorandum on medical issues will be sent by CHQs of all the affiliated organizations to the Prime Minister, Minister of Health & Family Welfare and Director General, CGHS.

State level Dharna at office of Assistant Director, CGHS on 06-08-2024.

Mass Dharna to be organised at the office of the Assistant Director, CGHS of every state on 06-08-2024 ensuring maximum participation of pensioners from each affiliated organizations. The same memorandum sent to the Prime Minister etc., should be submitted to the AD, CGHS by a delegation to press the demands.

Memorandum (2) on pension related issues, including pension revision of BSNL MTNL pensioners will be sent to Prime Minister, Minister of Pension and Cabinet Secretary by NCCPA and all the affiliated associations on 05-09-2024.

District level Dharna on 13-09-2024.

Mass Dharna to be staged with good participation of pensioners of the available affiliated organisations before a Central Government Office of the respective district.

State level Dharna on 25-09-2024.

Mass Dharna to be launched at any Central Government office of choice on 25-09-2024. Maximum MPs are to be met and solicit their support on the issues in both the memorandums during October, 2024.

Delhi Chalo - Dharna at Jantar Mantar, New Delhi from 2 to 5 PM on 13-11-2024. AIBDPA has been allocated a quota of 1000 comrades and we have to fulfill it, as the issues are of paramount importance, covering both medical issues and pension related issues.

Comrades, CHQ is aware that there are a series of agitational programmes to be implemented in the coming months and also the difficulties to organise the pensioners very frequently. But the situation is so grave that we have to rise to the occasion and organise all these programmes successfully. Struggle is the Hope and let us march forward with commitment and determination.

AIBDPA donations to Wayanad Distress Relief Fund			
	Name	Circles	Amount
1	Thiruvananthapuram	Kerala	564505
2	Kollam	Kerala	505004
3	Pathanamthitta	Kerala	177500
4	Alappuzha	Kerala	315001
5	Kottayam	Kerala	219000
6	Ernakulam	Kerala	529717
7	Thrissur	Kerala	302501
8	Palakkad	Kerala	359501
9	Malappuram	Kerala	115893
10	Kozhikode	Kerala	703500
11	Kannur	Kerala	929425
	Total =		4721547
12	Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu	805341
13	Andhra Pradesh	Andhra Pradesh	150676
14	West Bengal	West Bengal	105000
15	Chennai Telephones	Chennai TD	100500
16	Telangana	Telangana	58000
17	Assam	Assam	25000
18	Kolkata Telephones	Kolkata TD	20000
	Grand Total =		5986064

Organisational Report

Andhra Pradesh.

Prakasam District Conference held jointly with BSNLEU.

Prakasam District Conference was held at Ongole jointly with BSNLEU on 29-09-2024. Com.Venkaiah controlled the proceedings. Coms.P Asokababu, CHQ Vice President, K Remadevi, Circle Secretary, BSNLEU, K S C Bose, Circle Secretary, AIBDPA, K Prabhakara Rao, GS, BSNL CCWF and Krishna Balaji, ACS,BSNLEU addressed and explained the current issues on which struggles are being held. The report presented by Com. Shaik Aziz and accounts by Com.N Sastralu, Treasurer were adopted after discussion.

The conference elected the office bearers unanimously with Com.Shaik Aziz (President) Com.G Nageswara Rao (District Secretary) and Com.N Sastralu (Treasurer).

Srikakulam District Conference.

District conference of AIBDPA Srikakulam was held on 11/07/2024 in the conference hall of United Teachers' Federation building at Srikakulam. Com. KSC Bose, Circle Secretary in his inaugural address explained in detail the present status of BSNL, Pay revision and pension revision and congratulated Srikakulam Comrades for observing the calls given by the CHQ. Com.N.Ramarao, ACS explained the status of medical bills payments, necessity of re-validation of medical cards as per existing rules, submission of LC by due date etc.,.Leaders from CITU,AIPRPA, BSNLEU and Railway pensioners association addressed.

The report submitted by the DS Com. K.Gopalrao and accounts by the Treasurer T.Krishna Rao were approved after discussion. The conference unanimously elected new office bearers for the next period with Com.K.Gopal Rao, Com.Venkatarao Panigrahi and Com.T.Krishna Rao as President, Secretary and Treasurer respectively. The conference adopted resolutions demanding opening of CGHS Wellness Centre at Srikakulam. Empanelled new hospitals, proper payment of medical allowance. Com. M.Govardhan Rao proposed vote of thanks. President Com.K.Udaya Sankara Rao and Vice-

President Com.G.Rajeswara Rao controlled the proceedings.

Visakhapatnam District Conference held on 10-07-2024.

The district conference of AIBDPA Visakhapatnam was held on 10/07/2024 at the conference hall of 3rd floor, Alluri Seetharamaraju Vignana Kendram, Visakhapatnam. District president Com.R.Govinda Raiu controlled proceedings.Report and accounts submitted by the Secretary and Treasurer were approved after discussion. Recently elected Honourable Member of Parliament from Araku Constituency Smt Dr.G.Tanuja Rani (daughter of BSNL retiree) and Ex MLC AP Sri MVS Sharma graced the conference. Our District and Circle leaders congratulated the MP and felicitated the guest. Memorandum on pension revision was submitted by the Circle Secretary and other leaders to the honourable Member of Parliament and the MP in her address assured to raise this issue in Parliament. Com.KSCBose,CS Com.N.Rama Rao, ACS, Com.Ramana Murty Vice-President, Com, R. Satyanarayana ACS, Com.P.E.Ch.Sagar DS BSNLEU, Com.P.Latchiraju ,Circle President BSNLEU, Com.Chandrasekhar GS ΑII CG Pensioners association Visakhapatnam addressed the gathering and explained in detail about present status of Pay revision and pension revision and programme of Joint Forum and NCCPA to achieve our genuine and long pending demands. Office bearers were elected unanimously with Com.R Govindaraju (President) Com.K Ramanjanevalu (District Secretary).

Kurnool District Conference.

The 4th biennial District Conference of Kurnool was held on 22-06-2024 with good participation.Com.M Siva Reddy, District President presided. Com.K S C Bose, Circle Secretary inaugurated the conference with a detailed speech and explained the issues including status of pension revision and the Joint Forum agitation being launched, CHGS linking with ABHA etc. Coms.Radha Krishna (CITU), M Yacob, Circle President, N Rama Rao, ACS, M Rangaiah,COS, G Maheswara Rao,ACS and Ramalingam addressed. Com.M A Gafoor, State leader of CITU greeted the conference.

The report and accounts presented by Com.P Madduleti, District Secretary and Treasurer, respectively were adopted after discussion. Office bearers were elected unanimously with Com.A Ramalingam (President) Com. L Vijayabhaskar (District Secretary) and Com. Khaja Mohiddin (Treasurer).

Bihar

Bihar Circle Conference .

The 3rd biennial Circle Conference of Bihar was held at Katihar on 25-09-2024 with good participation of pensioners from all over Bihar.

The open session was inaugurated by Com. K G Jayaraj, General Secretary. He explained the issues on which agitations are being held under the banner of Joint Forum of BSNL MTNL Pensioners Associations and NCCPA. He appealed to observe October 1, the International Pensioners Day by all our units jointly with other affiliates of NCCPA, wherever possible. Prof. Ramprakash Mahto, Ex. Bihar Education Minister was the Chief Guest who delivered an inspiring speech appreciating the efforts being taken by AIBDPA for the cause of the pensioners and exposed the anti -PSU stand of Modi government. Shri. Shantosh Prasad Yadav, RJD leader also addressed the open session. Com S P Azad, Circle Vice President presided over the conference. Coms. N K Srivastava, Circle Secretary and B K Singh, District Secretary, Katihar and Convenor, Reception Committee welcomed all the participants. In the subject session held in the afternoon, Com. N. K. Srivastava presented the report and audited accounts which were adopted after discussion. All the district Secretaries and some of the Circle Office Bearers participated in the discussion. Com. N. K. Srivastava, Circle Secretary explained well all the issues raised in the discussion.

The election of office bearers was unanimous and Com. B. K. Singh (President)Com.N K Srivastava (Circle Secretary) Com. B. N. Rai (Treasurer) are the important functionaries.

Muzaffarpur (Bihar) district conference. Muzaffarpur District Conference was held on 14-09-2024. Com. Ramsobhit Singh presided over the conference. Inaugurating the conference, Com.N K Srivastava, Circle Secretary explained

the issues, including pension revision and the agitations being launched. The report and accounts were adopted after discussion. A new set of office bearers were elected with Com. Manoj Kumar (President) Com. Bashant Lal (District Secretary) Com. Dinesh Chandra Jha (Treasurer).

Kerala.

Kerala Circle Executive Committee meeting held at Thiruvananthapuram.

Com.V A N Namboodiri, Advisor inaugurated the Kerala Circle Executive Committee meeting held at P&T House, Thiruvananthapuram on 22-06-2024 with a brief but educative speech. Com.K Mohanan, Circle President controlled the proceedings. Com.N Guruprasad, Circle Secretary welcomed and presented the report. Com.K G Jayaraj, General Secretary in his address covered important developments at international level including the barbaric genocide of innocent people at Palestine by Israel, TUI(P&R) 3rd Congress, the importance of 18th Parliment election, proposed agitational programme of Joint Forum of BSNL MTNL Pensioners Associations for pension revision, NCCPA agitational program on important issues including restoration of OPS, BSNL Pension revision, CGHS issues etc , BSNL MRS, BSNL offer in lieu of residential landline connection. While congratulating all the comrades for the improvement in membership, General Secretary appealed for further joint efforts for strengthening the organisation at all levels and successfully organise the struggles.

Com.K G Jayaraj, General Secretary was felicitated for his election as Vice Secretary of TUI(P&R) and Com.V A N Namboodiri presented the memento on behalf of the Kerala Circle.

Coms.R Muraleedharan Nair, AGS, MGS Kurup, CHQ Treasurer and Lucy Isac, Convenor, Womens Committee also addressed. In the discussion that followed, all the District Secretaries and most of the Circle Office bearers actively participated. The issues raised in the discussion were replied appropriately by Com.N Guruprasad, Circle Secretary. Important decisions were taken by the CEC including to implement the agitational programmes successfully.

Kolkata Telephones

6th Kolkkata Telecom District Conference .

The 6th District Conference of Kolkata Telecom (West Bengal Circle) was held on 08-09-2024 at Tarakeswar Telephone Exchange, Kolkata. Com.Animesh Mitra, President,BSNLEU CHQ inaugurated the conference with an encouraging speech covering almost all the issues. Com.Asis Das, Circle Secretary delivered the keynote address. Coms.Sujoy Sarkar, Circle Secretary, BSNLEU also addressed. Com.Dasboxi presided over the conference. The report and audited accounts presented by Coms. Niranjan Sarkar, District Secretary and Ashish Gupta, Treasurer respectively were adopted after discussion.

The following are the important functionaries elected unanimously; Com.Ramprasad Datta (President) Com.Niranjan Sarkar (District Secretary) Com.Ashish Gupta (Treasurer).

Kolkata west diistrict conference held.

Com.Sanjib Banerjee, Circle Secretary, Kolkata Telephones and AGS inaugurated the Kolkata West District Conference held at Satyapala Telephone Exchange, Howrah on 22-08-2024 with an inspiring and detailed speech on the issues and the struggle. Coms.Supriya Mitra, Circle President, Sisir Roy, Secretary, BSNLCC and a host of leaders addressed. Office bearers were elected with Com.Nandallal Pathak (President) Com.DulalSaha (District Secretary) and Com.Ashok Ghosh (Treasurer).

Odisha.

Berhampur District Conference held on 04.08.2024.

Berhampur District Branch in Odisha has held its biennial Conference on 04-08-2024. Com.Kailash Chandra Mallick, Circle President controlled the proceedings. Com.Pravinjan Panigrahy, District Secretary welcomed all and presented the report and accounts. Com.A Dhupal, CHQ Vice President inaugurated the conference explaining the issues in detail and the struggles being launched by Joint Forum and NCCPA. Com.J Kameswar Rao, Circle Secretary, BSNLEU made special address and narrated the developments in BSNL and assured all support to AIBDPA. Thereafter discussion took place and both Coms.A Dhupal and P.Panigrahy replied the points raised and the report and accounts were adopted.

In the unanimous election of office bearers, Coms.Kailash Chandra Mallick, Pravinjan Panigrahy and L N Panda were elected as President, District Secretary and Treasurer, respectively.

Rajasthan.

Jodhpur District Conference held befittingly.

The biennial District Conference of Jodhpur, Rajasthan has been held with good participation of pensioners on 22-08-2024. Com. Iqubal Khan, District President presided. Com. M K Nagpal, Circle Secretary inaugurated and explained the current status of the important issues of pension revision, medical issues etc. Com. Hari Narain, CHQ organising Secretary appealed to make the struggles being launched by Joint Forum successful. Coms. Ashok Pareek, Circle Secretary and P K Jain, CHQ Organising Secretary of BSNLEU also addressed. Office bearers were elected unanimously with Com. Iqubal Khan (President) Com. Devraj Singh Naruk (District Secretary) and Com. Abdul Karim (Treasurer).

Tamil Nadu.

Cuddalore District conference held on 10.09.2024.

The 4th biennial District conference was held on 10-09-2024 at Villupuram under the presidentship of Com. N Meganathan, District President. Com.I M Mathialagan, District Secretary welcomed all the participants. Com.R Rajasekar, Circle Secretary inaugurated the conference and gave a good account of developments in the recent past, particularly the agitations being launched by Joint Forum and NCCPA. Coms. C K Narasimhan, Circle President, S Muthukumarasamy, Special invitee, K T Sampandam Circle Vice President, S Soudararaj, District Secretary BSNLEU, S V Pandyan, District Secretary, TNTCWU and D Ramamurthy, General Secretary, Transport Pensioners Association also addressed. Shri. S Balachandran, GM, BSNL greeted the conference. The report and audited accounts presented by Coms. I M Mathialagan, Secretary and Com.B Chandrasekharan, Treasurer were adopted after discussion. Office bearers were elected unanimously with Com. N Meganathan (President) Com.I M Mathialagan (District Secretary) and Com.B Chandrasekharan, Treasurer.