



MTNL EXECUTIVES' ASSOCIATION

Central Headquarters, New Delhi

(Registered under the Trade Union Act 1926, reg no-ALC/Karyasan-17/9715)
[Affiliated to National Confederation of Officers' Associations (NCOA)]

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Ref. No.: MEA/CHQ/ CMD

DATE : 09-07-2019.

To
Shri P K Purwar
CMD, MTNL
Corporate Office, New Delhi

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अ. एवं प्र. नि. के निजी सचिव//BS to GMD
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9, C.G.O. Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003

Subject: - Step-motherly treatment to MTNL retirees by BSNL

In the matter of retention of departmental quarters post retirement resulting in non-payment of 10% of the gratuity to the tune of Rs One Lakh to many retirees who were in occupation of BSNL quarters for the admissible periods after their retirement.

Respected Sir,

We are constrained to write to your good self this letter for resolution of a BSNL created problem due to which a number of MTNL retirees who were in occupation of BSNL quarters after their retirement for admissible periods have been denied payment of Rs one Lakh each out of their gratuity. The amount has been withheld by MTNL Mumbai for want of No Objection Certificates to be issued by BSNL. BSNL insists for clearance by these retirees of the outstanding revised License fees. The revision of the License Fees by BSNL is discriminatory and against the existing rules is the main issue of contention.

To help your good self to appreciate the problem we are furnishing below the gist of the issue:-

The two PSUs were formed on conversion of the government department the DOT (Department of Telecommunication). Erstwhile government employees of DOT before their absorption in these PSUs were given option for many of their service conditions including the allotment and retention of erstwhile government quarters now in possessions of these two PSUs. One of the stipulations for absorption was that employees will continue to be governed by the existing rules till these are changed by these PSUs after due notice and option for the change.

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Hitherto, retired employees from MTNL or BSNL had an option to continue the quarters after their retirement for periods varying from 2 months to 8 months with variation in license fees -- such as for a period upto 2 months normal license fee was being charged and for a further period of 2,4 and 6 months the license fee chargeable was double, four times and six times the normal license fees respectively.

Of late the BSNL authorities have started discriminating between MTNL retirees and their own retirees in the matter of allotment and retention of quarters. Unmindful of the extant rules and orders the BSNL authorities, instead of charging license fees, have started charging MTNL retirees in occupation of BSNL quarters from the day one since retirement the HRA which the retired employees were eligible before their retirements. By doing so, they have withdrawn the century old facilities/concessions provided to MTNL employees being absorbees from the DOT or erstwhile DOT employees. BSNL after issuing notices to retired employees for recovery of exorbitant amount as per their changed discriminatory policy has withheld issuance of clearance (No Due Certificates) to such retirees. MTNL has withheld an amount equivalent to 10% of the gratuity amounting to Rs One Lakh of all the retirees for want of such No Due Certificate from the BSNL. The representations by such retirees have failed to yield any response or action from the concerned authorities. This has been causing untold harassment and inconvenience and wrongful denial of payment of an amount of Rs One Lakh withheld by MTNL to all such retirees.

The irony is that the BSNL authorities have spared their own retiring employees, from application of its revised rules for License Fees, who continue to enjoy the age-old concession. This act of the BSNL authorities is highly discriminatory and needs to be set right by your good self. The BSNL authorities also seem to be unmindful of the fact that the employees of BSNL and MTNL being the DOT absorbees or the erstwhile DOT employees are governed by the same set of rules (including estate rules) in the matter of allotment or continuation after retirement of quarters and in many other respects.

We earnestly request your good self to bestow your personal attention to the issue and to:-

1. Advise the BSNL authorities not to discriminate between MTNL and BSNL retirees in the matter of retention of departmental quarters after retirement and quash the discriminatory policy of the BSNL..

2. Advise the MTNL authorities to pay the withheld amount of Rs One Lakh of gratuity to all affected retirees without any further delay as the two PSUs can very well settle the issues within them.

With regards

yours faithfully

(V K Tomar)

Copy to: 1. Director (HR)

2. Director (Pm)

3. Director (Tech)