



Sanchar Nigam Executives' Association

Andhra Pradesh Telecom Circle, Vijayawada.

All Communications to
The Circle Secretary

J UMAMAHESWARARAO
Circle Secretary
Mobile: +91-9441353888
Email: sneaap@gmail.com

Lr No SNEA/ VCD/CWC /2021-2025/ 89

Date:03 -05 -2025

To
Dr. Pemmasani Chandra Sekhar,
Minister of State in the Ministry of Communications and
Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development
Government of India
1st Floor, Sanchar Bhawan, 20, Ashoka Road,
New Delhi, PIN- 110001

Respected Sir

Sub: Request for Intervention on EPF Higher Pension Rejection Cases –Reg

On behalf of SNEA a recognized executives association of BSNL, I am writing to respectfully draw your kind attention to an urgent issue concerning the widespread rejection of applications for higher pension benefits under the Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) scheme. The affected employees, who have legitimately exercised their options as per Supreme Court directions and EPFO circulars, are being denied their rightful entitlements without transparent or valid reasoning.

Following the landmark Supreme Court judgment dated 04.11.2022 and subsequent EPFO circulars, employees were invited to submit joint options for pension on actual salary instead of the capped wage ceiling. In good faith, thousands of employees submitted their applications, often accompanied by substantial documentation and compliance with the specified timelines.

- A large number of applications have been summarily rejected without clear or detailed grounds.
- Applicants have not been provided with adequate opportunities for hearing, clarification, or resubmission of missing documents.
- The rejections appear arbitrary, inconsistent, and lacking due process, creating financial uncertainty for senior citizens who have planned their retirement based on this assurance.
- Critically, **within the same organization, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), certain employees' applications have been approved for higher pension benefits while others despite similar service records and eligibility have been rejected without just cause.**

This inconsistency within a single employer organization highlights a serious lapse in the uniform application of rules and principles of equity, leading to significant confusion, resentment, and legal uncertainty. Such discrepancies are not only unjust but also undermine the spirit of the Supreme Court judgment aimed at protecting the social security of employees. Given the grave implications, we believe this issue merits urgent attention at the ministerial level.

In light of the foregoing, we respectfully request your good office to:

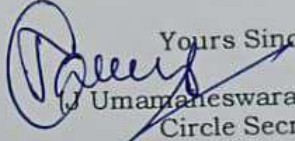
- Instruct the EPFO or Ministry of Labour to promptly publish a clear and comprehensive list of reasons for the rejection of higher pension applications, and to establish an appeal or review mechanism to provide aggrieved applicants a fair opportunity for reconsideration.
- Ensure the uniform and consistent application of eligibility criteria across all EPFO regional offices, thereby eliminating arbitrary or region-specific discrepancies in the processing of applications.
- Facilitate the organization of special grievance redressal camps or dedicated helpdesks to assist applicants in addressing any documentation gaps or procedural requirements, thereby promoting accessibility and transparency.

Consider constituting a high-level review committee under the Ministry's supervision to oversee the EPFO's compliance with judicial directives and to safeguard the pension rights of employees.

The right to a dignified and secure retirement is fundamental. Many of the affected employees have contributed tirelessly for decades and deserve a fair and lawful resolution to their pension applications. Ministerial intervention at this critical juncture can prevent further injustice and reinforce public trust in government institutions. Your esteemed intervention would provide immense relief and restore faith in the system.

Given the serious financial and emotional impact on retired and retiring employees, we humbly request your esteemed intervention to pursue this matter with the Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) OR Ministry of Labour for a fair and expeditious resolution. We firmly believe that your support and advocacy will go a long way in securing justice for the affected members and in upholding the trust in our social security systems.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.


Yours Sincerely,
Umamaheswara Rao),
Circle Secretary,
SNEA, AP Circle