

कपिल सिबल
KAPIL SIBAL



मानव संसाधन विकास विभाग
संचार एवं सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी विभाग
भारत सरकार, नई दिल्ली - 110 001
MINISTER OF
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT,
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NEW DELHI-110 001

D.O. No. 34-19/2011-Pen(T)

12 SEP 2011

Dear Shri Javadekar Ji,

Kindly refer to your letter dated 5th July, 2011 enclosing therewith a representation from the Convenor, United Forum of MTNL Unions and Associations, regarding the issue of payment of pension to the absorbed employees of MTNL.

As per the existing provisions, the absorbed employees of MTNL who have opted for combined service pension for their service in Government and MTNL are to be paid pension through a pension fund created as a trust with one time contribution from the Government. However, on the demands of MTNL absorbed employees for payment of pension from the government, the then Minister of Communications & IT held a meeting with the Secretaries of DoT, DoP&T, DoE on 20.08.2002 on the issue and the matter was referred to the COS. The COS examined the issue in their meeting dated 14.12.2004 and it was decided that the existing system of payment of pension would continue. The decision of the COS was accepted by the Cabinet.

The issue was again discussed in a high level meeting chaired by the then Minister of Communications & IT on 06.12.2007 and it was decided that a note for the Cabinet may be put up. The aforesaid Cabinet Note was submitted to the Cabinet Secretariat, which also included the views/comments of DoP&PW, Department of Expenditure (DoE) and Department of Legal Affairs (DLA) on the issue. However, due to differences of opinion of the concerned Departments on the issue, the matter was referred to Committee of Secretaries (COS). The COS has desired to get the views of DLA on certain issues. When the matter was referred to DLA they asked for fresh views of the nodal Departments on the subject before tendering their legal advices. Accordingly, fresh views of DOP&PW and DoE have been requisitioned on the issue.

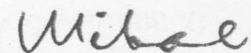
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While examining the issue, it has been observed that the majority of IDA pay scales in MTNL were one grade higher than that in BSNL, which is one of the major factors due to which the matter could not be settled so far. Due to this reason, CMD, MTNL was asked to discuss the issue with staff representatives as to whether the employees would be willing to accept bringing down MTNL pay scales to BSNL level. However, CMD, MTNL has conveyed that the MTNL Management deliberated upon the issue with their Staff representatives and after the detailed discussion, it has emerged that MTNL staff representatives are not willing to accept bringing down their Pay Scales at par with BSNL level.

With regards,

Yours Sincerely,



(KAPIL SIBAL)

Shri Prakash Javadekar,
Member of Parliament (RS),
24, Mahadeo Road,
New Delhi - 110001.