

BHARAT PENSIONERS SAMAJ



JANGPURA, NEW DELHI - 110014

ALL ABOUT

**Bharat Pensioners Samaj (BPS) Work style & Structure
(Established in 1955 Registration no S-2023 of 1962-63)**

by

Justice Shankar Saran (retd)



S. C. Maheshwari, Secy. Genl. BPS

Dedicated to Affiliates, Members, Supporters & Well Wishers

WE ARE RETIRED BUT NOT TIRED

2/13-A, LGF (Backside), Jangpura - 'A', Hospital Road,

New Delhi - 110 014

MANAGEMENT

BHARAT PENSIONERS SAMAJ, NEW DELHI

(Federation of All India Pensioners' Associations), Regd No. S - 2023 of 1962 - 63.

Niti Ayog Unique Identity No. = DL/216/20102111)

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BPS website: www.bps1955.in

Pensioners associations/ individual pensioners desirous to join Bharat Pensioners Samaj as Affiliates/members may visit this website and without login click 'About' on home page to choose : 'Become member' 2 'various payment modes'. From this link they may also view 'About BPS' 2. 'Rules & Regulations' 3. 'Entitlement of Affiliates/members. 5.Membership rates

Bharat Pensioners Samaj is also available on

facebook,whatsAap & twitter .

For latest information visit:

www.scm-bps.blogspot.in

Bharat Pensioners Samaj: A Legacy of Advocacy and Support for Pensioners

Bharat Pensioners Samaj (BPS) was founded in January 1955 by Justice (Retd.) Shankar Saran of Allahabad High Court, Sh. N P Srivastava IAS (Retd.), and Sh. M Ruthnaswamy, former Vice-Chancellor of Annamalai University, as a non-profit, non-political, secular organization. BPS is headquartered in New Delhi and is registered with the Registrar of Societies, RNI, GOI/ DOP & PW, Niti Ayog, and under Income Tax section 80G. It is also affiliated with the International Federation on Ageing as an Associate NGO and is a member of the Global Network of Senior Citizens/Pensioners Associations. In 2024, Tata Trusts sanctioned a financial grant of Rs 10 lakh to strengthen BPS, marking a significant milestone in its journey.

Mission and Growth

The founders envisioned creating a network of pensioners to foster a sense of unity, provide mutual support in times of need, and seek governmental assistance for resolving grievances. Over the years, BPS has grown into an All-India Federation of Pensioners' Associations, spreading its reach across the country, except for Sikkim and the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar, with over 1 million members through its affiliated and associated associations.

Advocacy and Achievements

BPS serves as an extended arm of the Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare (DOP&PW) for resolving pensioners' grievances through various forums, including CPENGRAMS, where it has a dedicated webpage for tracking and addressing issues related to pensions and medical reimbursements. The organization also publishes a monthly news magazine under RNI registration No. DELBIL/2006/17678, which disseminates information and raises awareness among pensioners.

Throughout its history, BPS has been instrumental in securing numerous benefits for pensioners through advocacy with pay commissions and DOP&PW. The organization has consistently

raised pension-related issues, which have found references in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha debates. Notable milestones include:

1. Audience with the Prime Minister (1968): BPS successfully advocated for the creation of a statutory body to address pensioners' grievances, leading to the formation of the Ministry of Personnel & Pensions in 1970 and the establishment of the DOP&PW in 1985.
2. Fourth CPC Amendments (1985): With the intervention of the then Prime Minister, BPS influenced the amendment of the Fourth Central Pay Commission (CPC) Terms of Reference to include past pensioners.
3. Role in SCOVA (1986 onwards): BPS played a pivotal role in the functioning of the Standing Committee of Voluntary Agencies (SCOVA) and in persuading DOP&PW to include a definite policy for SCOVA membership.
4. Launch of Pensioners Portal (2007): BPS persuaded DOP&PW to launch the Pensioners Portal and promoted it through the TV serial 'e-Kranti 3' on Doordarshan, where BPS was part of the advisory committee.
5. Advocacy in 5th, 6th, and 7th CPC: BPS represented pensioners in the 5th, 6th, and 7th CPCs, securing various benefits, including uniform family pension rates, modified pension parity, fitment benefits, and the age-related enhancement of pensions.
6. Global Advocacy (2013): BPS Vice President (West Zone), J N Rao, represented BPS at the World Conference Against A & H Bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, advocating for the abolition of nuclear weapons.
7. Pension and Healthcare Reforms: BPS has been actively involved in advocating for pension and healthcare reforms, including the revision of CGHS rates and improvements in CGHS services.
8. Digital Literacy Initiative (2024): BPS made history by launching a project in Bangalore, in collaboration with TCS, to spread digital literacy among pensioners and senior citizens.

Recognition and Publications

The functioning of Bharat Pensioners Samaj has attracted interest from sociologists, social scientists, and anthropologists, earning mentions in various academic publications, including:

“Anthropology of Ageing” by Vijay Upadhyay

Journal of Sociology Research Vol. 32-33 by the Council of Social & Cultural Research, Ranchi University

“Encyclopaedia of Social Work in India Volume 4” by the Ministry of Welfare

“India’s Elderly Burden – Social Science” by Sebastian Irudya Rajan

“Retirement in India” by George Manachery

“A Fight for Rights” by M L Sondhi

“Ageing & Society” by H S Bhatia

“Societal Responses” by Dr. Mala Kapur Sankar Dass

UNFPA- SITUATION & VOICES UNFPA Publication No2 of 2002 page 108.

UNFPA India Ageing Report 2023

BPS has also been recognized by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances, and Pensions, with several of its grievances considered and addressed by the government.

Conclusion

Bharat Pensioners Samaj has been a beacon of hope for pensioners/family pensioners across India, tirelessly working for their welfare and rights for almost seven decades. Its legacy of advocacy and support continues to make a significant impact, ensuring that the voices of pensioners are heard and their rights upheld.

Best Practices of Bharat Pensioners Samaj (BPS)

The Bharat Pensioners Samaj (BPS) is a leading national federation dedicated to addressing pensioners' concerns across India, including underserved regions. Below are its best practices that exemplify its commitment to pensioners' welfare:

1. Constructive Engagement with Authorities

- o Maintains cordial relations with authorities and emphasizes solution-oriented advocacy over protests.
- o Highlights unresolved issues via social media instead of organizing dharnas or slogan-shouting events.

2. Comprehensive Data Management

- o Maintains detailed, up-to-date records of over 10 lakh members through advanced software integrated with its website.
- o Ensures efficient communication and operational transparency.

3. Information Dissemination

- o Shares real-time updates on:
 - § Government circulars and court judgments.
 - § Federation activities via WhatsApp, email, SMS, social media, and a monthly magazine.
- o Provides consistent updates on its website and blog for wide-reaching outreach.

4. Grievance Redressal

- o Filters grievances to identify genuine cases, addressing many through direct communication.
- o Pursues valid cases through:
 - § CPENGRAMS.
 - § Pension Adalats.
 - § Advocacy with authorities.

5. Grassroots Awareness and Connectivity

- o Organizes conferences and workshops under the motto “**Each One Help One**” to:
 - § Educate pensioners on modern technology and cyber safety.

- § Enable Digital Life Certificate generation and teleconsultation.
- o Fosters problem-solving and experience-sharing at the grassroots level.

6. Assistance to Vulnerable Pensioners

- o Offers targeted support to vulnerable groups, such as:
 - § Unmarried, widowed, or divorced daughters.
 - § Elderly siblings and family pensioners.
- o Provides city-level assistance through a network of secretaries and vice presidents.

7. Healthcare Advocacy

- o Monitors and advocates for better implementation of health schemes like CGHS, RELHS, and ECHS.
- o Highlights deficiencies and ensures improvements through persistent efforts.
- o Coordinates health talks and virtual awareness programs with affiliates.

8. Expanding Outreach and Partnerships

- o Builds partnerships with like-minded organizations to enhance capabilities.
- o Collaborates with state and central authorities to represent pensioners comprehensively.

9. Transparency and Accountability

- o Regularly publishes audited financial reports.
- o Encourages feedback to refine its processes and decision-making.

10. Future Initiatives

- o Leverages technology to simplify administration and promote financial literacy.
- o Raises awareness on government schemes and pensioners' legal rights.

Conclusion

Through its inclusive policies, technological innovation, and structured advocacy, Bharat Pensioners Samaj serves as a robust platform for pensioners' welfare. Its practices ensure pensioners' voices are heard, their grievances addressed, and their well-being safeguarded effectively.

RULES AND REGULATIONS OF BHARAT PENSIONERS SAMAJ
(NATIONAL FEDERATION OF PENSIONERS' ASSOCIATIONS)
(As ammended by the 69th AGM on 09.11.2024.)

1. **Preamble:** The Bharat Pensioners Samaj, which is an All India Federation of Pensioners' Associations will represent all categories, groups and classes of Pensioners, who draw Pensionary benefits from the Central or State Governments, or PublicSector Undertakings, Corporations or local bodies and their dependents with a view to promoting general welfare of pensioners and ageing persons and to help them in all possible ways. Active members of the Samaj will be encouraged to utilize their time and experience in social work, to raise the status and strength of the people and to improve the image of India by bringing about a change in their attitudes and thinking.

2. The Samaj shall be a non-political, non-profitable, Secular and social welfare organization, free from party, group, provincial or linguistic affiliation. Its Registered office shall be at Delhi/New Delhi.

3. Definitions :

(a) 'Samaj' - means the **BHARAT PENSIONERS' SAMAJ**.

(b) 'President' - means the President of the **BHARAT PENSIONERS' SAMAJ** & includes working president.

(c) 'Member' - means and includes Patron, Life Member, Ordinary Member and Members of National Council of Pensioners.

(d) A 'Year' shall be deemed to commence on 1st April and end on 31st March next year.

(e) 'Affiliated Association' - means and includes a State Association or a District Association where a State Association does not exist, and any Departmental Association of Pensioners affiliated with and admitted to the privileges of the Samaj.

(f) Associate association means an association affiliated to a Federation /Association which in turn is affiliated to Bharat Pensioners Samaj.

(g) A Pensioner means a person who retired from Civil, Railways, Posts & Telegraph, or Defence Services of the Government of India or any State Government or Union Territory Administration in India or from the Government of undivided India or Burma, Pakistan, or from the service of any Local Body, Council, or Public Sector Undertaking/industries covered by EPS 95.

4. Aims and Objects

(a) To promote the general welfare of Pensioners and elderly persons.

(b) To promote such measures as may be conducive to material benefits of members of the Samaj.

(c) To accept donations, grants-in-aid, loans from members of the general public and other organizations including Government and Semi-Government bodies and local authorities with a view to promote interests of the Samaj particularly in :-

(i) Providing medical and Social welfare facilities for Pensioners and their dependents,

(ii) Arranging educational facilities for dependant wards of Pensioners.

(iii) Establishing homes, hostels, health resorts with or without facilities for board and lodging for recreation of Pensioners on a no-profit no-loss basis and Bharat Pensioners' Samaj.

(v) Helping pensioners and their dependents in distress.

(d) To take such steps as may be necessary to help Pensioners in the redress of their legitimate grievances and complaints.

(e) To establish Information Centres to guide, help and assist pensioners in matters relating to their rehabilitation on retirement, providing counsel and other information of interest to them.

(f) To carry out survey, collect statistics and material on living conditions of Pensioners and their dependents and disabilities from which they suffer and plan projects for promoting their welfare.

(g) To publish books, periodicals, newspapers and useful literature of interest to Pensioners and elderly persons.

(h) To affiliate itself with International Associations / federation with similar aims and objects.

(i) To encourage members to utilize their time and experience in social and welfare work.

(j) To take such steps as may be necessary to carry out the above objects in co-operation with other Associations and social welfare organizations with similar objects in views.

(k) To establish branches of the Samaj in various States and Districts and associate itself with other Association working with similar aims and objects.

5. **Membership:** Every Pensioner/pensioner's spouse irrespective of community, cast, creed or religion is eligible to become a member of the Samaj with the approval of MC (May be post facto) on payment of such fee and on such conditions as may be laid down by the Managing Committee of the Samaj with a majority of two-third members present in the meeting.

Membership Fee/affiliation :

(a) **Mandatory 10 yrs Basic membership** – On being elected /co-opted as an office bearer/Member of Bharat Pensioners Samaj Managing Committee basic member ship fee of Rs. 3300/- valid for ten years will have to be paid.

(b) Any person may become a subscriber to 'BHARAT PENSIONER' or any pensioner /pensioner's spouse may become an ordinary Member of BPS on payment of per annum fee as prescribed from time to

time by the Managing Committee. Presently it is Rs 400 Yearly, Rs 750/- Biennial, 1100/- Triennial, Rs 11000 whole life. Affiliation of Assns Fee = Rs 1000/ per year, Such a subscriber will be entitled to receive 'BHARAT PENSIONER' Journal Hard/Soft copy as per the decision of the Managing committee from time to time. Hard copies whenever printed will be sent ordinary post free of cost during the currency of his/her membership. In case due to any reason hard copies are not printed soft copies will be shared on WhatsApp groups/email as the case maybe.

*Note: 1. The rates of subscription for Life Members, Annual, Biennial & Triennial Members and for Affiliated Associations, including cost of single copy of 'BHARAT PENSIONER', may be revised by Managing Committee from time to time".

2. BPS liability with respect of monthly journal is limited only upto posting & does not carry guarantee for receipt by the addressee.

6. **Patrons** - Any person with the approval of Managing Committee who is in sympathy with the aims and objects of the Samaj and subscribes a sum of Rs. 21000/- or more may become a Patron of the Samaj. The Managing Committee of the Samaj may also nominate any person as Patron for reasons of distinguished services to the country or to the Samaj. "Patrons will act as think tank of the organization, will suggest measures to strengthen the organization and will guide in identifying and proper processing of pensioners issues, disciplines / departments wise.

7. **Affiliation Fee** : An Affiliated body of Pensioners shall pay to Bharat Pensioners' Samaj an annual fee *Rs. 1000/ - and receive hard or soft copy of all publications of BPS including 'BHARAT PENSIONER' for one year. Will be able to raise genuine grievances & pensioners' issues through Bharat Pensioners Samaj. Their activities will also be highlighted in 'Bharat Pensioner'.

7.A: The Managing Committee may, for reasons to be recorded, revise the above rates, as and when necessary, and notify the same one month before the new rates are Implemented.

8. Cessation of Membership : Membership of Bharat Pensioners' Samaj shall cease on member's:

(i) Death

(ii) Resignation when accepted by Managing Committee,

(iii) Poor or non performance (Decision of Managing committee in this regard shall be final.)

(iv) Expulsion by Managing Committee for reasons to be recorded, General Body may without giving any reason expel any office bearer or MC member or may nullify election of any office bearer by voice vote of authorized delegates. Managing committee subject to post facto confirmation by Genl. Body may also drop any office bearer /MC member/Patron for non performance or for working against the interest of organization.

(v) Conviction in a Court of Law on grounds involving moral turpitude,

(vi) Failure to pay the dues of the Samaj within 3 months after the end of the period to which the subscription relates.

(vii) Not attending 3 Managing Committee meetings without intimating valid reasons in advance and

(viii) Anti Organization activities.

9. General Body :

(i) Patrons, Life Members and Other Members.

(ii) Two delegates from each of the Affiliated Federation/Associations having membership upto 1000. Affiliated Federations/Associations having membership over 1000 will be entitled to two (2) additional delegate for every 1000 additional members. As per the preamble, BPS is a federation of Pensioners Associations, these delegates will have right to vote. Vote value of each delegate of an affiliated association/federation shall be equal to 100 votes of individual members. Affiliated Associations shall provide complete list of their members with contact Nos etc in the first quarter of the year. However, those representing associations in the Managing Committee will have right of additional vote during the currency of their tenure by virtue of their being in Managing Committee.

10. Function of the General body: The General Body shall have supreme authority over the affairs of Bharat Pensioners Samaj. Its functions shall be as follows:-

i. To consider the Annual Report on the working of the Samaj.

ii. To pass such resolutions as are considered necessary in the interest of the Samaj and to lay down general policy for the guidance of the Managing Committee in matters pertaining to coordination work at various levels and establish close relationship between the Affiliated Associations and to issue guidelines and such directions and or instructions to Affiliated National / State / District level bodies to enable them to carry on work on a uniform basis to achieve the aims and objects of the Samaj.

iii. To appoint Standing and Ad-hoc Committees for specific purposes and an Auditor, who must be a Chartered Accountant.

iv. To consider and to pass budget for the following year.

v. To conduct election. In case of contest for any office or office bearer for membership of the Managing Committee and to pass any Resolution the procedure for voting shall be by show of hands by the authorized delegates having voting right.

vi. To amend the Constitution.

11. Procedure for holding Meetings of the General Body.

(i) A meeting of General Body shall be held once a year and shall be presided over by the President, in his absence by the Working President. In the absence of both, Vice- President from Delhi; and in the absence of all three by a person elected to take the Chair. In the event of an equality of votes the Chairman

shall have a second or a casting vote. The quorum for such a meeting shall be fifty. Every Pensioner who has enrolled himself / herself as a member of Bharat Pensioners' Samaj or is an authorized representative of an Affiliated Association and has paid the subscription by 30th September preceding the date of the AGM in which elections are to be held, is entitled to vote and stand for election as a member of the Managing Committee.

(ii) However, to be an office bearer, he/she should agree to be a Life Member of the Samaj and should pay the subscription on being elected/nominated by the Annual General Meeting .

(iii) The agenda proposed for the General Body Meeting shall be published one month before the date of the meeting in the 'BHARAT PENSIONER' notifying the date, time and place of the meeting., Voters list will be updated one month in advance of AGM in which election is to be held and only valid voters & authorized delegates of affiliated Associations will be invited to attend AGM in which election is to be held.

(iv) An extraordinary Meeting of the General Body may be called by the President or by the Secretary General at the request of fifty members, after giving 30 days notice and specifying the agenda for the meeting.

(v) If within an hour from the time appointed for the meeting of the General Body quorum is not complete, the meeting shall stand adjourned for half an hour and proceed with the agenda thereafter,

(vi) Decision at a meeting of the General Body shall be taken by a majority of votes of delegates of affiliated associations & members entitled to vote,

(vii) Amendments to the Constitution of the Samaj shall be made by the General Body with 3/5th majority of the members present and voting (See Rule - 14)

(viii) A record of the proceedings shall be kept by the Secretary General and be signed by the President (or the Chairman). Important decisions shall be published in the 'BHARAT PENSIONER' for general information of members of the Samaj.

(ix) Progress on action taken on the recommendations or resolutions passed by the General Body shall be reported in the 'BHARAT PENSIONER' by the Secretary General.

12. **Managing Committee:** (a) Managing Committee shall consist of the following who must be primary members of BPS:

- (i) AdvisorONE
- (ii) PresidentONE
- (iii) Working PresidentONE
- (iv) Vice-Presidents cum Zonal organizersSIX

One from Delhi NCR and five others elected or nominated at State level bodies by rotation from each

Northern, NorthEastern, Southern, Eastern and Western Zones. They will also act as Zonal Organizers in their respective zones. These Zones will comprise:

(a)-Northern Zone: States of National Capital Territory of Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Union Territories of Chandigarh, Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh;

(b)- North East Zone: States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura;

(c)-East Zone: States of Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha, Sikkim, West Bengal and UT of Andaman & Nicobar Islands;

(d)-South Zone: States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telengana and UT of Lakshadweep and Puducherry islands;

(e)- West Zone: States of Chattisgarh, Gujrat, Goa, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and UT of Daman & Diu and Dadar & Nagar Haveli.

(v) Secretary GeneralOne

(vi) Joint Secretary General One

(vii) Assistant Secretary General..... One

(viii) SecretariesEight [one each for: {Civilian/Posts & Telegraphs}, Rlys, Defence,BSNL/PSUs,PR,EPS-95, State pensioners & Statutory/Autonomous Bodies]

(ix) TreasurerOne

(x) EditorOne

(xi) Associate Editor..... One

(xii) Members Twenty

(4 members to be computer savvy preferably from NCR nominated by SG BPS)

(xiii) Immediate past President and immediate past Secretary General shall continue as Members of Managing Committee for the next term.

All office Bearers shall normally hold office for three years. They shall, however be eligible for re-election. If for any reason elections are delayed, old office bearers shall continue to function till fresh elections are held.

12.a) Out of the two posts i.e. President & Working President incumbent of one post will be from NCR.

b.) Subject to post facto approval of M.C./AGM, the Secy. Genl may co-opt such persons, not exceeding four, as are considered useful for its work for any general or specific purpose.

c.) Meetings of the Managing Committee shall be called by the Secretary General for transaction of the affairs of the Samaj as often as necessary and on such date, time and place as may be considered convenient, provided that ordinarily a notice of ten days for such a meeting shall be given to members of the Committee.

d.) Quorum for meetings of the Managing Committee shall be seven of whom 3 will be non-office bearers i.e MCM. If a member of the Managing Committee fails to attend three (3) consecutive meetings without prior notice or reasonable cause to the satisfaction of the Managing Committee, his name may be removed from the list of Managing Committee Members/ Office bearers

e.) The Managing Committee shall:

(i) Be responsible for implementation of decisions and policies of the General Body,

(ii) Review from time to time the financial position of the Samaj and suggest to the General Body improvements which may be considered desirable.

(iii) Arrange for deputations of the Samaj or of State Organizations to Central or State Government wherever such a course is considered desirable.

(iv) Organise social welfare and personal services for pensioners and elderly persons in cooperation with official agencies and other non-official Institutions.

(v) Maintain and operate Pensioners' Benevolent Fund for relief of Pensioners and their families in distress.

(vi) Initiate measures for aid, help and guidance to pensioners in matters relating to pension and redress of their other complaints and grievances.

(vii) Have full powers to incur expenditure against the budget allotments made by the General Body and make rules for its proper functioning.

(viii) Study all aspects of the possible advancement of Aims and Objects of the Samaj and all matters referred to the Samaj by Affiliated Associations or Individuals and submit to the General Body such measures as it considers necessary. It will co-ordinate the work of Affiliated Associations, deal with State and Central Government and other matters relating to the interest of members, lay down policy and line of action on general or specific issues.

(ix) The Managing Committee may fill any vacancies which may occur during the term of its existence.

12- A(i) May approve purchase/acquisition of land/built up premises etc. of Bharat Pensioners' Samaj in terms of rule 4 (c) (iv). 12-A

(ii) May authorize President/Secretary General to execute and sign all documents etc.on behalf of Bharat Pensioners' Samaj for the purposes of Rule (4) (c) (iv) and rule 12-A (i)

13. **Office Bearers- 13.(A) Advisor :** Will render advise to the President & Secy Genl. as & when his opinion is sought but it will not be a binding on them.

(a) **President:** The President shall preside at meetings of the General Body and of the Managing Committee. In the absence of the President, Working President will preside, the Sr. most Vice- President

present will preside in the absence of president & working president. In the absence of all three, any other member elected as Chairman shall preside. He shall lead delegations, deputations to a Central or State Government as and when necessary. He shall exercise directional authority over all office bearers and appellate authority over all employees of the Samaj. He may, in consultation with Wkg President and Secretary General, fix suitable remuneration for any person (s) engaged for the activities of Bharat Pensioners Samaj.

(a) **Working President:** In the absence of President, he shall exercise all powers of the President.

(b) **Vice-President-cum-Zonal Organisers:** . Vice Presidents cum- Zonal Organisers shall act on behalf of President in their respective jurisdictions and will be responsible for looking after Pensioners' Associations in those areas.

(c) **Secretary General:** The Secretary General shall be the Principal Executive Authority for the working of the Samaj under the general direction and guidance of the President and shall be the administrative authority over all employees of the Samaj, He shall:

- i) Implement all decisions of the General Body and of the Managing Committee,
- ii) Carry on all correspondence with the Central and State Governments and with Affiliated Associations.
- iii) Hold an Imprest of Rs. 10000/- and render its account to the Treasurer.
- iv) Prepare and present annual report on the activities and achievements etc. of BPS.
- v) Mobilize resources of the Samaj with the assistance of other members of the Managing Committee.
- vi) Printing and publishing of 'BHARAT PENSIONER' with the assistance of his staff.
- vii) Bharat Pensioners Samaj shall sue or be sued in the name of the Secretary General.

(d) **Secretaries:** All the Eight Secretaries will examine and dispose off the problems of Pensioners of the related wings, in accordance with the Rules of Bharat Pensioners Samaj, directly; except in policy matters which will require prior consultation/consent of the President and Secy General Secretary PR will assist Secy General in efficient discharge of his function.

(e) **Joint Secretary General:** The Joint Secretary General shall assist the Secretary General and perform such duties as may be assigned to him by the President or the Secretary General: His chief assignment shall be to issue notice of meetings, record minutes of meetings of the Managing Committee and of General Body and coordination of work as between the Samaj and the various Standing and Ad-hoc committees and State, District and Departmental Associations.

(f) **Assistant Secretary General:** The Assistant Secretary General shall be computer & internet savvy and will assist the Secretary General and the Joint Secretary General in :

(i) In maintenance of upto-date register of Members and Affiliated 'Associations and to organize campaign for their enrolment;

(ii) To deal with correspondence with States, Districts, affiliates, individual subscribers.

(iii) In publishing list of members periodically as may be decided by the Managing Committee.

(iv) In updating social media & digitalization.

(v) Will record minutes of all conferences , meetings & workshops etc.

(g) **Treasurer:**(i) Treasurer shall supervise accounts maintained by the Accountant and shall see that BPS accounts are operated by any two of the following three: President, Secy Genl & Treasurer.

(ii) Certify the correctness of monthly accounts of all receipts and expenditure prepared by the Accountant and the balance in hand.

(iii) Arrange to have accounts audited by the Auditor and place these before the Managing Committee for approval.

(h) **Secretary Public Relations:** In addition to assisting Secy Genl, Secretary Public Relations shall assist the Managing Committee and the Affiliated Associations in accordance with the general policy of the Samaj. He shall maintain close liaison with sister organizations, Trade unions, various Ministries and Departments concerned with pension and welfare of Pensioners and also with the Press and Mass media for publicity & promotional activities work.

(i) **Editor:** In consultation with Secy Genl, he will collect material for the Journal BHARAT PENSIONER, prepare editorial, fix up priorities and supply the same to publisher to ensure its dispatch to members by the prescribed due dates.

(j) **Associate Editor:** Will assist editor.

(k) **Auditor:** With the help of the Treasurer, the Auditor shall audit accounts of the Samaj.

14. **Amendments to the Constitution:** The General Body of Bharat Pensioners' Samaj shall have the power to amend, add, alter or rescind any provision of the Constitution with consent of 3/5th majority of the members present in a meeting and voting and to frame rules there under and to amend or rescind them.

14- A. However, for day-to-day working of the Samaj, in all its prescribed activities, the Managing Committee may decide, by a majority vote on amending/introducing any new operational measure, but without interfering with the basic Aims and Objects of the Organization. The reasons for the same will be duly brought on record in the minutes of the Managing Committee. Any such new amendment/ addition will be later got ratified at the next AGM.

15. **Dissolution and disposal of assets of the Samaj:**The Samaj may be dissolved by a vote of 3/5th of the members of the General Body and after such dissolution the assets of the Samaj shall, after discharge of all liabilities, be donated to such charitable purposes as may be directed by the General Body authorizing such dissolution.

Office of Bharat Pensioners Samaj (BPS HQ)

The headquarters of Bharat Pensioners Samaj (BPS) is located at Jangpura-A, New Delhi - 110014, in a basement owned by the organization. The office is fully digitalized and operates paperlessly, except for the printing of the monthly news magazine. It is staffed by two regular employees, with additional support from members of the Managing Committee who assist on a rotational basis.

Financial Sources

1. Donations:

o The primary source of income for BPS comes from donations made by affiliates, members, supporters, and well-wishers. Donations to BPS are exempt under Section 80G of the Income Tax Act.

2. Grant-in-Aid:

o BPS receives an annual grant-in-aid of INR 75,000 from the Government of India (GOI) through the Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare (DOP&PW), subject to certain conditions.

3. Affiliation Fee:

o The affiliation fee is INR 1,000 per year, which entitles affiliates to receive the monthly news magazine free of cost by registered Bookpost. The actual cost of the magazine to BPS is INR 25 per copy. Affiliates also receive free access to BPS websites, the blog, and all other BPS social platforms.

4. Individual Membership Subscription:

o The individual membership subscription rates are currently INR 400 per year, INR 750 biennially, and INR 1,100 triennially. Members receive the monthly news magazine free of cost in pdf format/ print copy at the discretion of management, for print copy postage will be extra. Members will also have free access to BPS websites, the blog, and all other BPS social platforms.

BPS Work Pattern

Vice Presidents (VPs) & Secretaries

1. Liaison with Pensioners Associations:

o VPs and Secretaries will maintain liaison with Pensioners Associations within their jurisdiction. They will identify issues, work out justifications, and assess financial implications.

2. Issue Processing:

o Process the identified issues at their level.

3. Forwarding to HQ:

o Issues involving policy changes, amendments to rules, orders, circulars, etc., should be forwarded to the HQ.

4. Handling Local Issues:

o VPs and Secretaries will manage local issues related to Pension Adalats and individual grievances.

5. Grievance Submission:

o Only selected and specific grievances should be forwarded to HQ using the prescribed proforma.

6. Quarterly Reporting:

o VPs and Secretaries are required to send a quarterly report of their activities to enable HQ to submit a consolidated progress report to the Government of India (DOP&PW).

7. Promotion of BPS:

o VPs and Secretaries will promote BPS, its vision, and mission. They will guide and support affiliates in their respective jurisdictions. Only justified issues, with complete details, should be forwarded to HQ.

BPS HQ Responsibilities

1. Correspondence and Negotiations:

o The HQ will correspond and negotiate with Ministries and policymakers.

2. Publication Management:

o The HQ will manage the publication and dispatch of the monthly magazine, handbooks, eBooks, blogs, Twitter, Facebook, Yahoo groups, website, etc.

3. Compliance:

o Fulfill all prescribed requirements and terms set by DOP&PW and IFA. Maintain an up-to-date list with contact numbers of affiliates, their members, and individual subscribers.

4. Financial Management:

o Maintain accounts according to standard accounting procedures. Arrange for quarterly audits by authorized auditors and submission of IT returns. Manage all issues related to RNI, Registrar of Societies, Property Tax, Income Tax, Electricity, Telephone, Water Supply, and maintenance of the office, equipment, and building.

5. Policy Issues and Grievances:

o Process and strive to resolve issues involving policy matters, amendments to rules/orders/circulars, and long-outstanding grievances.

6. Grievance Handling:

- o Process individual grievances forwarded by VPs and Secretaries using the prescribed pro-forma.

7. Liaison with Organizations:

- o Maintain liaison with sister organizations within the country and international organizations such as IFA, UNFPA, etc.

BPS Patrons · Role:

- o Besides being part of the ‘Think Tank,’ Patrons will do everything possible to promote BPS, its vision, and mission.

Additional Notes

1. Supporting Personnel:

- o As per BPS conventions and policy, each Secretary may choose a voluntary, computer-savvy assistant from their own or another BPS-affiliated association. On their recommendation, the assistant may be considered for induction as a member of the Managing Committee.

- o Financial assistance for the Secretary’s work should be provided by the association/federation to which the Secretary belongs. Being elected or co-opted as an office bearer of an international-level organization like BPS is a matter of pride for the association. In this digital age, most work is done virtually through video conferencing, requiring minimal financial resources.

- o If an association invites the Secretary as a guest, that association must bear the costs.

2. Information Submission:

- o BPS Secretaries/VPs are expected to search and download orders, circulars, and notifications related to their concerned departments and send them to BPS HQ/Editor every month for publication in the monthly magazine.

3. Liaison Responsibilities:

- o Each Zonal VP and Departmental Secretary is expected to liaise with all BPS-affiliated associations within their jurisdiction. They are also expected to prepare a list of all pensioners’ associations affiliated and not yet affiliated with BPS. Affiliated Associations should be advised to send individual grievances using the following format if they fail to resolve the grievance at their level.

Main Thrust Areas

1. Healthcare for Elderly Pensioners:

- o Promote access to healthcare through government healthcare schemes.

2. Grievance Redressal:

- o Handle grievances through:

- § i) Correspondence.
- § ii) CPENGRAM.
- § iii) Pension Adalats.
- § iv) Meetings with concerned authorities.

3. Family Pension Sanctioning:

- o Focus on ensuring family pensions for spouses, unmarried, divorced, and widowed dependent daughters, and disabled siblings.

4. Implementation of Court Judgments:

- o Ensure the implementation of court judgments for all similarly placed individuals upon attaining legal finality.

5. Amendments and Benefits:

- o Advocate for amending/scrapping FR 56(a), granting notional increments to those retired on 30th June, and providing Pay Commission benefits to those retired on 31st December.

6. Pension Parity:

- o Promote parity in pension between pre and post-Central Pay Commission (CPC) retirees.

7. UPS (unified Pension Scheme)

Seeking Improvement in UPS

BPS Grievance Redressal Format

All fields are required:

a. Name & BPS Subscription No.:

b. Full Address with Contact Mobile No./Email Address:

c. Office from which retired: (Name & Address of the office should be indicated in full)

d. Post Held at the Time of Retirement: (Include scale of pay with last basic pay)

e. Pension Details: (Specify the quantum if pension has been sanctioned)

Additional Details:

I. Accounts Officer Details: (Who issued the PPO)

II. Pension Disbursing Authority Details: (Include Bank Account No.)

III. PPO Number:

IV. Year & Type of Retirement:

V. Reference No. & Date of Representation Made (if any) & Response:

Important:

VI. Attach supporting documents in PDF format.

VII. Write your representation in no more than 4,000 characters.

Entitlements for Individual Members

· **Monthly News Magazine:**

o Entitled to a free copy of the *Bharat Pensioners* magazine in Pdf/print on the discretion of management.

Grievance Redressal:

o Individual pension-related grievances are taken up for redressal through the DOPPW PG Portal, provided details are submitted on the prescribed proforma.

· **Voting Rights:**

o Entitled to vote in the AGM and other meetings. Eligible to be elected as an office bearer of the Managing Committee (their vote value is 1/100 in the AGM, but they get full vote value upon election to the MC).

· · **Additional Facilities:**

o May receive other facilities on a case-by-case basis, at the sole discretion of the management.

Entitlement of Bharat Pensioners Samaj affiliated organizations/Federations & Associations.

1. Updates through WhatsAap/ email/blog etc. Get free access to all social platforms of BPS
2. Summary of their activities are published in monthly news magazine Bharat Pensioner
3. They can raise their genuine Health care & Pension related issues through BPS Platform
4. They can refer to BPS genuine grievances of their members which they are themselves not able to get resolved.
5. They get voting rights in AGM minimum =2 plus additional 2 per additional 1000 or part thereof & also the right to get elected to BPS managing committee. If one of their members gets elected or nominated to Managing Committee. They get an additional voting right
- 6 One free copy of monthly news magazine & Henceforth will get one free copy of every Publication by BPS
7. An affiliate in fact becomes a partner of the organization in every activity.

Grievance Redressal:

o Individual pension-related grievances are taken up for redressal through the DOPPW PG Portal, provided details are submitted on the prescribed proforma.

Membership Register

Bharat Pensioners Samaj (BPS) has adopted a paperless working system, with fully digitalized records.

· The membership register is updated daily through specially designed software, with 24x7 availability on the account website www.bps.in.

· Currently, total membership, including 225 affiliated associations spread across the country, associate associations, and individual members, stands at 10,12,000.

Accounts Management

- BPS accounts are fully digitalized and updated daily.
- Accounts undergo quarterly and yearly audits by Chartered Accountants.
- BPS accounts are subject to scrutiny by the DOPPW as well as the Ministry of Finance.

This structure ensures transparency, accountability, and smooth operation in all financial and membership-related matters within Bharat Pensioners Samaj.

News Magazine: Bharat Pensioner

- **Language:** Published monthly in both English and Hindi.
- **Distribution:** Free for members/affiliates; available for others at ₹ 50 per copy.
- **Registration:** Registered with RNI (Registrar of Newspapers of India) under registration No. DELBIL/2006/17678.
- **Formats:** Available in print, as an eBook. & soft copy (Pdf)

Contents Include:

1. **Activities of the Organization:** Covered under the section “*Hum Aur Aap.*”
2. **Activities of Affiliated Organizations:** Featured under the section “*Aap Aur Hum.*”
3. **Government Orders:** Includes government orders related to pensioners, circulars, and orders related to healthcare schemes like CGHS, RELHS, ECHS, etc., as well as court judgments concerning service/pension/health matters.
4. **Dearness Relief Calculations:** Provided on a monthly basis.

Note: The Secretary (Public Relations) of BPS personally supervises the dispatch of the magazine at the post office according to a mailing list that is automatically updated by our computer software.

Online Platforms

To maintain constant contact with affiliates and members, and to keep them updated with relevant information while highlighting pension/healthcare problems, grievances, and demands, BPS utilizes the following online platforms:

- **Blog:** scm-bps.blogspot.in
- **Website:** www.bps1955.in
- **Facebook Page:** Bharat Pensioners Samaj
- **Twitter Handle:** [@rrewa](https://twitter.com/rrewa)
- **WhatsApp Groups:** Maintained for continuous communication with affiliates and members.
linkdin & Instagram;

Incentives for Affiliates to Improve Service Quality

BPS PMES Awards for Affiliated Associations

The survival of pensioners' organizations depends on their performance. Successful organizations prioritize recognition from the communities they serve (pensioners, in our case) over recognition by the government. BPS has a history of learning from the past and adapting to future requirements. Our ongoing mission is to serve better, and we encourage our affiliates to progress and strengthen themselves. As affiliates grow, so does BPS.

In today's world of modern technology and management skills, both the Federation and its affiliates must constantly upgrade. BPS is committed to adopting modern technology and managerial skills to provide better guidance, information, training, and real-time support to its affiliates. We encourage our affiliates to keep themselves updated as well.

Performance-Oriented Scheme Awards:

- **(1) S. P. Vatta Memorial Trophy:** Includes a ₹ 5,000 cash prize.
- **(2) Daya Maheshwari Memorial Trophy:** Includes a ₹ 5,000 cash prize.

Entry Submission:

- Entries for the 2023-24 awards are invited on the specified proforma and should reach BPS HQ by 30.09.2024.
- Note: Associations that received the BPS PMES award within the last two years (i.e., 2022, 2023) are not required to submit entries.

Special Recognition for Individual Members:

- Individual members who attain 80 years of age while being a BPS member are honored at the time of the AGM with a citation, shawl, and garlands.

Annual Report of Secretary General for Approved by the 69th AGM cum Annual conference

at Gorakhpur bon 09.11.2024

Distinguished Guests on the Dais, Respected BPS Managing Committee Office Bearers, Delegates from Affiliated Associations, BPS Members, Brothers, and Sisters:

I am delighted to welcome you all to the 69th Annual Conference cum AGM of Bharat Pensioners Samaj (BPS) National Federation of Pensioners here in Gorakhpur. Bharat Pensioners Samaj has distinguished itself as a pioneer among pensioners' organizations by embracing digitalization in its operations and promoting digital literacy among senior citizens and pensioners.

In November/December 2023, we approached Tata Trusts with three proposals seeking their support:

1. Financial Assistance: A request for Rs. 10 lakhs to strengthen the organization, recover from the financial setbacks caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, and address financial constraints.
2. Digital Literacy: To spread digital literacy among senior citizens and pensioners.
3. Unified App Creation: To develop a unified app for senior citizens and pensioners.

We received substantial support from Ms. Saraswathi Padmanabhan and later from Shri Anirudh Menon of Tata Trusts in pursuing these issues. I am thrilled to announce that Tata Trusts has sanctioned a grant of Rs. 10 lakhs for one year to help Bharat Pensioners Samaj strengthen its operations and recover lost ground. Our digital literacy project, approved by Tata Trusts, was launched in collaboration with TCS from Bangalore on July 15, 2024. The success of this event is owed to Smt. Saraswathi Padmanabhan of Tata Trusts and Dr. Louis CK of TCS, with our affiliates in Bangalore, Comrade Radhakrishnan of NCCPA, and BPS Secretary for AB/SB Pensioners, Comrade Surya Prakash ji, who worked tirelessly to ensure its success. On behalf of BPS, I extend my heartfelt thanks to all of them.

We also express our deepest gratitude and prayers for the long and healthy life of Bharat Ratna Ratan Tata ji, whose generosity has greatly contributed to these initiatives. However, I request Smt. Saraswathi ji and Shri Anirudh Menon ji to assist us with the "Creation of Unified App for Senior Citizens and Pensioners," which is still pending with Tata ProEngage.

In June/July 2024, BPS faced an unprecedented calamity due to heavy rains in Delhi. On June 27/28, 2024, a nearby drain breached, causing severe flooding in our office, destroying our digital infrastructure, including computers, 70 years of records, and furniture. This disaster occurred in the dead of night.

However, our affiliated associations and respected members responded swiftly to our call for help. Within a month, we received over Rs. 8 lakhs in donations, enabling us to recover from this crisis gracefully. Inspired by DOPW and GOI policies, BPS is in the process of digitalizing its operations and storing data in the cloud to prevent future losses.

The period between the 68th and 69th AGMs has been quite eventful, as described above. BPS has shifted towards interacting and disseminating important orders and procedures through videos. Our issues, demands, and representations are now highlighted on social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Blogs, WhatsApp Groups, and email. I am grateful to my colleague JSG Shri Amya Raman for his initiative in this area. I also extend my thanks to Shri Surya Prakash, BPS Secretary for AB/SB Pensioners headquartered in Bangalore, for editing our news magazine and moderating M C meetings virtually. Additionally, I appreciate my office staff and the Secretary P R for

their relentless efforts in restoring our HQ office after the floods.

Today, I call upon BPS Managing Committee members, affiliated associations, and members to adopt and follow social media platforms. Please share and promote BPS posts on social media with favorable comments to increase their visibility and ensure they are noted by concerned government agencies.

Success Stories:

1. NPS: BPS advocated for the guarantee of 50% of the last drawn salary as a pension with the benefit of Dearness Relief or the restoration of the old pension scheme. In response to our appeals, the government constituted a committee to review NPS and suggest improvements. The government finally approved on 24.8.2024 the Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) which assures 50% Pension of the average of the last 12 months' basic salary on completion of 25 years of service with the advantage of DR.

2. CGHS: Through our representations, including those to parliamentary committees, several improvements have been made. CGHS rates have been revised, and bill payments to HCOs have been streamlined.

3. RELHS After protracted correspondence by BPS Rly. Health service has been streamlined.

4. FMA/Medical Facilities in Railways: After prolonged efforts by BPS, its affiliates, and MOU partners, the Railway administration has agreed to grant FMA and allow medical facilities to widowed, divorced, and unmarried dependent daughters receiving family pensions.

5. Coverage under PM-JAY Ayushman Bharat: In January 2023, BPS appealed to the Prime Minister to include pensioners not covered by any government healthcare scheme under Ayushman Bharat. This appeal was accepted in principle. The President of India mentioned in her first speech to the joint session of Parliament after the 2024 General Elections that all senior citizens aged 70 years and above, without income restriction, will be covered under Ayushman Bharat.

6. Resolution of Grievances: BPS M.C. members and affiliates have assisted hundreds of family pensioners, secondary family pensioners, and pensioners in resolving their grievances. Details of critical cases are published regularly in the BPS monthly news magazine.

The Way Ahead:

1. Advocacy and Persuasion: BPS will continue to advocate and persuade government agencies and PDAs to create a supportive environment for pensioners' issues.

2. Social Media Platforms: We will persist in using social media platforms to highlight pensioners' concerns and pressure government agencies. We request our affiliates and members to support this initiative by writing positive comments and sharing posts widely to make them viral.

3. Resolutions and Membership Drives: Each resolution passed by the 69th AGM will be processed separately with detailed justifications and sent to the relevant authorities. We will also launch drives to increase membership and affiliated associations, and to train members and affiliates in DLC generation, grievance processing through CPENGRAM, spreading digital literacy, information dissemination, and seeking government assistance in deficient areas.

Thank you.

Jai Hind,

S.C. Maheshwari