



BSNL

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## NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TELECOM EMPLOYEES

BSNL

(Regn. No. 4906 dated 17/9/2001)

MS-II, Q. No. 21 & 17, Atul Grove Road, New Delhi-110001

TF-6/7

Dated:-18-06-2019

To,

Shri Ravishanker Prasad  
Hon'ble Minister of Communication  
and IT  
Govt of India, Sanchar Bhavan  
New Delhi.

**Subject:-** Revamping and revival of BSNL – reg.

Respected Sir,

We are extremely happy as your honour has once again been entrusted the responsibility to lead the Telecom Ministry at the time when the Telecom Industry in general and two Govt PSUs viz BSNL and MTNL in particular are in deep financial crisis. We look forward that under your dynamic and visionary leadership the crisis will be blown over as happened in first term.

Sir, we will be failing in our duty if we donot mention that due to your persistent efforts and able guidance the BSNL reached to the operational profit stage after year 2014. It is very heartening to note that immediately after taking over the charge of Ministry in second term you have been kind enough to express your concerns for revival and revamping of BSNL. The union representing more than 50,000 non-executives staff in its National Executive Meet at Mysuru from 08<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> June has welcomed your gesture for revival of the PSU and decided to extend unstinted cooperation in this regard.

It is stated that various type of news are pouring in media due to which the workforce are panicky and restless. You will agree, Sir, this cannot be in the interest of company. W consider it appropriate to state that at the time of Corporatisation of Telecom Services the then NDA – I Govt, headed by late Hon'ble Shri Vajpayee as PM, guaranteed the following sequel to agreements with the then NFTE and FNTTO federations.

- (1) Job security to employees.
- (2) Govt Pension to absorbed employees.
- (3) Financial viability of BSNL.

The assurances and guarantees were later implemented in letter and spirit as Govt enacted the Pension Rules 37A and introduced amendments for Govt. Pension and Job security mentioning clearly that the superannuation age of BSNL non-executive staff will be as per Central Govt i.e. 60 years of age. The BSNL top management also held meeting on 02-01-2001 with the then three federations viz NFTE, FNTTO and BTEF and signed an agreement of term and conditions for



absorption of employees in BSNL. This was circulated vide BSNL No.- BSNL/4/SR/2000, dt-02-01-2001 incorporating the clause that the retirement age of non-executive staff in the entity will be 60 years. These terms and conditions for absorptions were accepted and approved by DOT. Therefore, any change/lowering of retirement age as spread in media will be against the rules and agreement arrived at with the federations. There is also news in media for grant of golden hand shake, VRS, to employees. While we don't want to dilate on the issue but may apprise you it was granted twice in MTNL but the financial health of the PSU could not be strengthened.

Today BSNL is facing severe financial crisis although Govt in year 2000 promised and assured to keep the PSU financially viable and strong. The GOM recommendations and the provisions in the Cabinet Note of Sept, 2000 in this regard will reflect the true picture. It is unfortunate to mention that the DOT transferred all its liabilities to the new entity but kept all the assets with themselves. This has not been transferred even after passage of 19 years. Further, the BSNL is required to deposit pension contributions of its employees on maximum of the Pay Scales where as for Govt employees the same is on actual pay. The union has represented against the discrimination on uptoem occasions but issue could not be resolved by the DOT. The BSNL is thus burdened with the payment of huge pension contribution. This needs urgent resolution. The employees are ready to rise to the occasion to face the competition in professional way but adequate equipments and materials are needed for this. Despite ceaseless pursuance the DOT could not allocate 4G spectrum to BSNL as yet affecting quality of the service. The management of PSU is presently almost crippled as out of five posts of Director only one is filled up by regular incumbent and rests are in stopgap arrangement. The incumbents in stop gap arrangement are having additional charge of CGMs as such they cannot give best attention and justice to the responsibilities. This is affecting performance of the company.

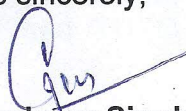
The wage revision of employees is due from 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2017 and more than 30,000 employees are stagnating on their maximums of their Pay Scales for last four years. There is deep frustration amongst the employees due to non revision of wage. The matter needs favourable consideration. The process of negotiation should commence with the recognized unions after 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2019. This will motivate the employees.

We, therefore, entreat upon you to please to take very urgent steps to bail out the ailing BSNL and ensure that the DOT and PSU management take the unions and workforce into confidence in revival and revamping process. The issues raised by us be considered and resolved for which we would be extremely obliged.

A line in reply will oblige us.

With Kindest regard,

Yours sincerely,

  
(Chandeshwar Singh)  
General Secretary