

BSNL EMPLOYEES UNION

Recognised Union in BSNL

(Registered Under Indian Trade Union Act 1926, Regn.No.4896)

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BSNLEU/102 (Circular No.10)

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To

**All Circle Secretaries,
Central office-bearers
& District Secretaries.**

Comrades,

Decisions of the landmark Agartala CEC meeting.

The three day Central Executive Committee meeting of BSNLEU was held at Agartala, the capital of Tripura, from 3rd to 5th April, 2018. The NE1 circle union and the Tripura district union have made excellent arrangements for the meeting. The meeting started with Flag hoisting. The National Flag was hoisted by Com.Balbir Singh, President. The Union Red Flag was hoisted by Com.P.Abhimanyu, GS. Floral tributes were paid in the martyr's column. A brief, but impressive cultural programme marked the beginning of the CEC meeting. Com.Balbir Singh, President, presided over the meeting. Com.Mitun Ranjan Bhowmik, Chairman, Reception Committee, welcomed everyone. Com.P.Abhimanyu,GS, welcomed everyone, on behalf of the CHQ, and briefly spoke on the importance of the CEC meeting. Com.K.Hemalata, President, CITU, delivered the inaugural address and spoke elaborately on the anti-worker and pro-corporate policies of the government. She appreciated BSNLEU for its role in the fight against the anti-BSNL policies of the government. Com.V.A.N. Namboodiri, founder General Secretary of BSNLEU, and Shri Ashish Pathak, GM, Tripura, addressed and greeted the meeting. Finally, Com.Shankar Bhardan, Joint General Secretary of the Reception Committee, proposed vote of thanks.

In the post-lunch session of the first day, Com. P. Abhimanyu, GS, presented the report on activities. He briefed the house about the improvements made on the wage revision issue, developments related to the Subsidiary Tower Company and the achievements made in the revival of BSNL. This was followed by deliberations by the CEC members. The deliberations were rich, which helped to take fruitful decisions.

In the post-lunch session of the second day, the agenda of Mid-term review was taken up. The General Secretary made a presentation on the important decisions taken in the last All India Conference, as well as in the Thiruvananthapuram and New Delhi Central Executive Committee meetings. A detailed assessment was made by the CEC members, with regards to the implementation of the decisions. Finally, the discussions were summed up by the General Secretary, and the following decisions were taken unanimously.

Decisions.

1) Campaign and struggle against Subsidiary Tower Company.

The CEC meeting appreciated the continuous struggles being launched by the All Unions and Associations of BSNL (AUAB), demanding the rolling back of the Subsidiary Tower Company. The meeting also noted with concern, the unrelenting efforts being taken by the DoT, to make the Subsidiary Tower Company operational. Hence, the meeting called upon the entire circle and the district unions to massively organise all the struggles, called on by the AUAB. In addition to the calls already given by the AUAB, the CEC meeting suggested that, more intensive campaign among the General Public, against the Subsidiary Tower Company, like massive dharnas with family members, torch rallies and holding press meets at circle and SSA levels, should be organised. Such a campaign programme among the public is necessary, to ensure the rolling back of the Subsidiary Tower Company. The CHQ is directed to take up this, with the AUAB.

2) Wage revision.

The CEC meeting appreciated the actions taken by the AUAB, to achieve a breakthrough in the wage revision issue. The Hon'ble MoS(C) has assured to take up the issue for the approval of the Union Cabinet.

Under these circumstances, the CEC meeting called upon the AUAB to remain vigilant, and to keep the employees in a 'ready-for-struggle' mode, to ensure a final success.

3) Observing Call Attention Day on 03.05.2018.

The CEC meeting decided to observe a Call Attention Day on 03.05.2018, by conducting lunch hour demonstrations and wearing black badges, to highlight the following issues.

- a. **Stop the mad rush for outsourcing of various works of BSNL.**
- b. **Curtail wasteful expenditures of the Company.**
- c. **Do not curtail the medical facilities of the serving and retired employees.**
- d. **Do not retrench the contract workers.**
- e. **Conduct fresh recruitment in the cadre of Sr.TOA.**

4) Com. Moni Bose Memorial Lectures to be organized on 19th May, 2018.

The CEC meeting reiterated the need to make a continuous campaign against the Neo-Liberal policies and also to promote communal harmony in the country. The meeting directed the CHQ and the Circle Unions to organise "**Com. Moni Bose Memorial Lectures**" on these two subjects, on 19th May, 2018, which is the 8th death anniversary of Com. Moni Bose. All the Circle Unions are requested to take immediate steps to organise this programme in a very effective manner. Progressive-minded intellectuals, professors, journalists, etc. at the state levels may be utilised for delivering these lectures.

5) Notes to be given to the CHQ, by the all CEC members, on curtailing wasteful expenditures.

The CEC meeting seriously discussed the urgent need to curtail the wasteful expenditures taking place in BSNL. The meeting directed that all the circle secretaries and Central Office Bearers should submit a note to the CHQ, on the wasteful expenditures that are taking place at the various levels of BSNL. Based on these field level notes, the CHQ will submit a detailed note to the Corporate Management on this issue. This note may be submitted to the CHQ by 16.04.2018.

6) Holding of young workers convention.

The CEC meeting emphasised the need to bring the young workers in to the active trade union movement. To achieve this, the CEC meeting decided that, all the circle unions should organise young workers convention. Special attention should be paid to invite substantial number of DR JEs, to this convention. This task has to be completed by 30.06.2018.

7) Decisions on remittance of CHQ quota.

The CEC meeting noted with concern that, the earlier CEC meeting decisions, with regards to the remittance to CHQ quota, are not implemented. In this regard, the meeting took the following decisions, and circle unions are requested to immediately implement these decisions.

- a) All the circle unions are requested to immediately collect from their respective circle administrations, the district-wise CHQ quota particulars for 2016 and 2017, and to send the same to CHQ, by 30th April, 2018.
- b) It is observed that Union subscription is still not being deducted at the new rate, but continues to be deducted at the old rate, in some circles. This is violation of the Union Constitution. The CEC meeting decided that all such circle unions should immediately take steps for the deduction of Union subscription at the new rates.
- c) It is also observed that in some circles, the CHQ quota is being handed over to the circle unions. This is violation of the Corporate Office orders on the subject. It must be ensured in all those circles that, the CHQ quota is sent to the All India Union, directly by the administration.

8) Celebration of Dr. B.R.Ambedkar Jayanti on 14.04.2018

The architect of the Indian Constitution, as well as a great crusader for social justice, Dr.B.R.Ambedkar's birth anniversary falls on 14.04.2018. The CEC meeting decided that Dr.B.R.Ambedkar Jayanti should be effectively organised by all the circles and district unions in a befitting manner. During this occasion, the efforts being taken by BSNLEU, to settle the problems of SC/ST employees in BSNL, may be high-lighted in an appropriate manner.

9) Allotment of circles to the Central Office Bearers, for the implementation of the CEC meeting decisions.

Based on the Mid-term review conducted in the Agartala CEC meeting, certain important organisational decisions have been taken. Accordingly, it has been decided that all circle unions should conduct their

Executive Committee meetings, by 30.04.2018, and should conduct a **Mid-term review**, as has been done in the Agartala CEC meeting. Review of the implementation of decisions should be conducted in these meetings. With a view to help the circle unions, in the effective implementation of the decisions, Central Office bearers have been allotted with the responsibility of attending various Circle Executive Committee meetings. They will help the circle unions to conduct the Mid-term review and also help in the implementation of the decisions of the CEC meeting. The allotment of circles to the Central Office bearers are as follows:-

- a) **Com. Balbir Singh, President:-** Gujarat, Rajasthan and Uttarakhand.
- b) **Com. P.Abhimanyu, GS :-** Karnataka, Punjab, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and NTR.
- c) **Com. Swapan Chakraborty, Dy. GS:-** West Bengal, Kolkata, Bihar and Jharkand.
- d) **Com. Animesh Mitra, Vice-President:-** UP(West), UP(East) and Haryana.
- e) **Com. K.R.Yadav, Vice-President:-** Madhya Pradesh and Chattisgarh.
- f) **Com. Jagdish Singh, Vice-President:-** Telecom Factory(Jabalpur), BRBRAITT(Jabalpur) and Inspection Circle(Jabalpur).
- g) **Com. R.S.Chauhan, Vice-President:-** Corporate Office and ALTTC, Ghaziabad.
- h) **Com. S.Chellappa, AGS:-** Andhra Pradesh and Telengana.
- i) **Com. Saibal Sengupta, AGS:-** Assam and Telecom Factory(Kolkata).
- j) **Com. John Verghese, AGS:-** Odisha and Telecom Factory(Mumbai).
- k) **Com. M.K. Dave, AGS: -** Maharashtra.
- l) **Com. Gakul Borah, Treasurer:-** NE-1 and NE-2.
- m) **Com. M.Vijayakumar, Org. Secretary:-** Tamil Nadu and Chennai.
- n) **Com.H.V.Sudharshan, Org. Secretary:-** Kerala

All the above mentioned Central Office Bearers are requested to kindly coordinate with the Circle Secretaries of the respective circles allotted to them, and to ensure the conducting of the Circle Executive Committee meetings before 30.04.2018. They are also requested to send a report in this regard to the CHQ.

10) Decision on Telecrusader and BSNL Swar.

Considering the fast phase of retirements taking place among the members of BSNLEU, the CEC meeting decided to effect a 20% cut in the number of copies of Telecrusader and BSNL Swar, being sent to the branch unions.

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Observe Call Attention Day on 03.05.2018.

The CEC meeting held at Agartala, noted with serious concern that, the BSNL Management is on an outsourcing spree. Each and every work, including those works which can be done by our employees, are being outsourced. May be "some quarters" are getting benefitted out of these outsourcings. It is an undeniable fact that huge money of the Company is going into the drain, due to these outsourcings. This has got to be stopped.

A lot of wasteful expenditures are severely affecting the finance of the Company. BSNLEU has already drawn the attention of the CMD BSNL, as well as the Director(Finance) on this count. We learn that recently, four officers from the Corporate Office, have visited Sri Lanka, in connection with a cricket match. This only shows that the top Management is in no mood to curtail wasteful expenditures. Instead, the Management tries to curtail the existing medical facilities of the employees, in the name of overcoming the financial crisis. The Agartala CEC meeting has decided to give a detailed note to the Management, demanding the curtailment of these wasteful expenditures.

So far as the Non-Executive cadres are concerned, Direct Recruitment is being made only in the JE cadre. But, no recruitment is being made in the cadre of Sr.TOA, even though acute shortage is there, due to large scale retirements. Hence, the Company has to go in for direct recruitment in the cadre of Sr.TOA.

The Corporate Office has recently given an instruction to the CGMs to substantially reduce the number of the contract workers. Immediately, this may result in some savings. But, in the long run, this will seriously affect the quality of our services, since the contract workers are largely engaged for maintenance works. In view of

the foregoing, the Agartala CEC meeting has decided to conduct a "Call Attention Day" on 03.05.2018. Lunch hour demonstrations shall be conducted throughout the country on that day, by wearing black badges. The following are the demands for the "Call Attention Day".

- a) Stop the mad rush for outsourcing works.
- b) Curtail wasteful expenditures of the Company.
- c) Do not curtail the medical facilities of the serving and retired employees.
- d) Do not retrench the contract workers.
- e) Conduct fresh recruitment in the cadre of Sr.TOA.

All circle and district unions are requested to take all out efforts to conduct the programme effectively.

Central Public Sector Trade Unions (CPSTUs) decide to intensify struggles against privatisation and for settlement of wage revision.

The Central Public Sector Trade Unions conducted a one day convention at Ernakulam on 08.04.2018. 340 delegates participated in the Convention, from all the major Central Public Sector Undertakings. Com. Tapan Sen, General Secretary, CITU, inaugurated the Convention. Thereafter, 34 delegates participated in the deliberations. A detailed picture was given by the delegates, with regards to the unprecedented attacks being made on the Public Sector, by the Modi Government. Com.P.Abhimanyu, GS, BSNLEU, addressed the convention, and gave a detailed picture of how the government is trying to finish off BSNL, by forming the Subsidiary Tower Company. He also narrated about the sustained struggles of the BSNL employees to safeguard BSNL, as well as about the developments in the wage revision issue of the BSNL employees. The meeting decided the following action programme on the key issues:-

Action programme

- (1) One week long propaganda, campaign and agitation from 7th to 11th May, 2018 in all PSUs.
- (2) The campaign should culminate into a day of massive demonstration in all PSUs and sending fax / message to Prime Minister, Minister of Heavy Industries and Department of Public Enterprises on the common text as under, on 11th May, 2018.

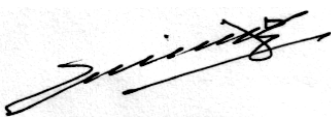
"We strongly oppose privatisation of PSUs; We oppose 'Fixed Term Employment' and demand withdrawal of the Gazette Notification; we demand scrap all conditionalities / restrictions on wage revision process and content in CPSUs specially the affordability condition and the directive of 'three yearly review' of wage agreement'."

- (3) All India Joint Convention of Public Sector Workers in New Delhi on 25th May, 2018 against privatisation, demanding withdrawal of Gazette Notification on 'Fixed Term Employment' and demanding withdrawal of all restrictions and anti-worker preconditions on right to Collective Bargaining; fair and satisfactory wage revision of CPSU workers. The convention shall decide next course of United Action to achieve the demands.

All circle and district unions are requested to implement the call of the Ernakulam convention of CPSTUs.

Thanking you,

Yours fraternally,



**[P. Abhimanyu]
General Secretary**