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General Secretary

# **BSNL EMPLOYEES UNION**

Central Head Quarters

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**BSNLEU/102 (Circular No.06)**

**21<sup>th</sup> June, 2020**

To,

**Circle Secretaries,  
Central office-bearers,  
and District Secretaries.**

## ***Decisions of the Central Secretariat meeting, held on 15-06-2020.***

Dear comrades,

The Central Secretariat meeting (consisting of the Central Office Bearers) of BSNLEU, was organised through video conferencing, on 15.06.2020. Com.Animesh Mitra, President, presided over the meeting. All the 25 Central Office Bearers participated in the meeting. At the outset, all the participants stood in silence for a minute and paid homage to the comrades who passed away after the Vadodara CEC meeting, as well as the migrant workers, who lost their lives on the way to their home states, after the lock-down was implemented. A note for discussion was presented by Com.P.Abhimanyu, General Secretary. All the Central Secretariat member participated in the discussion. After in-depth discussions, the Central Secretariat meeting took the following decisions: -

- (1) The meeting noted with deep concern that, the hard-won right of the working class, viz., **8 hour working day** is being taken away. Various state governments have increased the working hours from **8 hours a day to 12 hours a day**, at behest of the Narendra Modi government. It is worrying to note that in many states, all the labour laws have been suspended and thereby slavery is being imposed on the working people. The DA of the Central Government employees and pensioners has been frozen for 1 ½ years. More than 10 crore migrant workers are facing unprecedented crisis, due to the indifference of the Narendra Modi government. To mitigate the sufferings of the working people during the lockdown period, the Central Trade Unions have rightly demanded the government to transfer Rs.7,500/- per month, for the months of April, May and June, to all the non-income tax paying house holds. But, the government has not accepted this demand.

The government has also launched a brutal attack on the public sector. On the one hand, Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, talks about **Atmanirbhar Bharat**. On the other hand, his government is taking all the steps to privatise and to hand over the Indian Railways, Air India, Defence Factories, Coal mines, Bank, Insurance, Port & Docks, etc., to the multinational companies, by allowing 100% FDI in these sectors. 10 Central Trade Unions(CTUs), barring the BMS, are unitedly building resistance movements against the changing of the Labour Laws, privatisation of the PSUs, as well as on other demands. The CTUs have given call for country wide protest demonstrations on 3rd July, 2020. They are also planning massive mobilisations for struggles like prolonged non-corporation and defiance. The Central Secretariat meeting decided that, BSNLEU should implement all the calls of the CTUs.

- (2) The meeting expressed its deep resentment over the inordinate delay in the implementation of **BSNL's the Revival Package**, which includes the launching of BSNL's 4G service, sovereign guarantee for issuing bonds, assets monetisation, etc. It is already 8 months since the Revival Package was announced by the government, with much pomp and show. However, except retrenching 79,000 employees under VRS, the government has not taken any step to revive BSNL. On the contrary, conspiracy has been hatched to scuttle BSNL's 4G equipment procurement. The tender floated by BSNL to procure 4G equipments, has been stalled by the Commerce Ministry, based on some untenable objections raised by the Telecom Equipments and Services Export Promotion Council (TEPC). It is apparent that vested interests are at work, to stop BSNL from launching its 4G service. It is very unfortunate that the government is also extending its helping hand to those vested interests.

So far as the settlement of the burning problems of the Non-Executives is concerned, the meeting is totally disappointed to note that, the BSNL Management is adopting a negligent and lackadaisical attitude. Hence, the meeting decided to organise a day long dharna, with social distancing, on 26.06.2020, throughout the country, demanding immediate implementation of BSNL's Revival Package, including the launching of 4G service and expeditious settlement of the burning problems of BSNL employees.

- (3) The meeting appreciated the CHQ for maintaining a lively functioning, despite all the restrictions imposed on account of the lock-down. The meeting noted with satisfaction that, the CHQ has taken steps to provide relief to the contract workers, by way of raising the "Contract Workers Relief Fund". Totally, Rs.65 lakh has been collected in 20 circles and relief has been provided to the contract workers, by distributing food materials. The meeting also appreciated the CHQ for organising lunch hour demonstrations with social distancing, on 21.05.2020, against increasing the working hours to 12 hours a day and on certain other issues.
- (4) The meeting appreciated the CHQ for organising the Central Secretariat meeting through video conferencing. The meeting called on the CHQ to utilise the digital platform, for organising the meetings of the Central Executive Committee, BSNL Working Women's Co-ordination Committee, as well as the meetings of the All India Centre. In view of the restrictions imposed on account of the COVID-19 crisis, the meeting called upon the Circle, District and Branch unions to maintain effective communication with the grass-root level employees. The meeting requested the Circle, District and Branch unions to take effective steps to convey all the messages of the CHQ, uploaded on website and sent through circulars and WhatsApp, to the grass-root level employees promptly, by translating them into Regional Languages wherever necessary.
- (5) The birth centenary of Com.K.G. Bose, falls on 7th July, 2020. The Central Secretariat decided that the birth centenary of Com.K.G. Bose should be observed for one full year, to educate the employees. The meeting decided that, the photo of Com.K.G. Bose, should be garlanded in all the Circle and District union offices on 7th July,2020. It is also decided that seminars, special meetings, etc., should be organised to educate the employees on the visionary thoughts of Com.K.G.Bose.

(6) The journals of the union, viz., Tele Crusader and BSNL Swar, are not being printed from the month of April, 2020 onwards, due to the lock-down. The meeting reviewed the situation and decided that the issue for the month of July should be printed online. Thereafter, the situation is to be reviewed and appropriate decision is to be taken by the All India Centre, regarding printing the journals.

(7) The meeting decided that a New Promotion Policy should be demanded by the CHQ, in view of the drastic changes that have taken place in BSNL. A two member Committee, consisting of Com.Swapan Chkraborty, Dy.GS and Com.S. Chellappa, AGS, is appointed by the Central Secretariat, to give suggestions to the CHQ, for formulating the New Promotion Policy. The proposals for the New Promotion Policy will be finalised after discussion in the Central Executive Committee meeting.

Further, it was brought to the notice of the Central Secretariat that, large scale leakage of funds is taking place in the outsourcing of BSNL's works. The meeting appointed a two member Committee, consisting of Com.John Verghese, AGS and Com. P.R. Parameswaran, Organising Secretary, to collect the inputs in this regard, based on which the CHQ is to take up the issue with the Management.

(8) As regards the reorganising of the Telecom Factories, the meeting decided to demand that, a separate "Telecom Factories Circle" should be created and all the telecom factories should be brought under the control of this circle.

(9) The All India Centre has already donated Rs.25,000/- to the Progressive Printers, for the payment of wages of it's employees during the lock-down period. The Central Secretariat approved this donation.

The meeting requested all the circle unions to verify whether the entire CHQ quota arrears of Union subscription, starting from May, 2019, has been paid to the CHQ. The meeting once again reiterated that, no circle union should receive the CHQ quota and should compel the circle administrations to remit the quota directly to the CHQ, through NEFT.

All the circle and district unions are requested to ensure the immediate implementation of the decisions of the Central Secretariat fully.

Thanking you,

*Yours fraternally,*



**[P. Abhimanyu]**  
**General Secretary**