



BSNL EMPLOYEES UNION

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Central Head Quarters

P. Abhimanyu
General Secretary

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BSNLEU/ 312 (J&K)

30.09.2021

To,

Shri Vivek Banzal,
Director (CFA), BSNL,
Bharat Sanchar Bhawan,
H.C. Mathur Lane,
Janpath, New Delhi – 110 001

Sir,

Sub: - **Frequent outages in the Srinagar – Leh OFC route – requesting to take necessary remedial action– req.**

We wish to bring the following to your kind notice, for favour of necessary action.

BSNL services in Leh SSA of J&K circle, are greatly affected, due to frequent outages in the Srinagar – Leh OFC route. BSNL's mobile, landline, FTTH, broadband and Leased Circuit customers are suffering due to this frequently. As a result, BSNL is losing it's customers in Leh SSA. It is to be noted that, in this area, BSNL is catering to the requirements of the Indian Army and remote villages, along the borders of Pakistan and China.

The distance from Srinagar to Leh is 440 kilometres. In this, the Srinagar to Drass stretch is approximately 185 kilometres long. It consists of new OFC. Even here, our OFC is being frequently cut. The OFC stretch from Drass to Kargil is approximately 66 kilometres long and it consists of OFC laid in 2004. This is the stretch where most of the faults occur. The Kargil-Wakha stretch is approximately 44 kilometres long which consists of old SSA cable, which is overhead in some places. This stretch also experiences frequent faults. From Wakha to Leh, the distance is 180 kilometres approximately and this is a new route. This stretch reportedly experiences less cuts.

In view of the foregoing, we request that, the Management should take immediate steps to ensure that, the old OFC cables are replaced at the earliest. In the meantime, with the view to ensure good quality service to our customers in Leh SSA, we suggest that OFC media should be availed on rent from PGCL or from VTL.

Further, area wise, Leh is the second largest district in the country. Further, it is a mountainous region. Presently, there are 3 OFC maintenance teams in Leh SSA. This is hardly sufficient and at least 2 or 3 more maintenance teams are required to provide good quality service to the customers. We hope that the Management would take prompt action on the points raised above.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

[P. Abhimanyu]
General Secretary