



P. Abhimanyu
General Secretary

BSNL EMPLOYEES UNION

Central Head Quarters

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Main Recognised Representative Union.
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BSNLEU/604 (DEV)

01.08.2022

To,

Shri P.K. Purwar
CMD BSNL,
Bharat Sanchar Bhawan,
H.C. Mathur Lane, Janpath,
New Delhi – 110 001

Sir,

Sub: - **Holding the employees responsible for the failures of the Management and threatening to increase the working hours – expressing our strong protest - req.**

Ref: - CGM, BSNL, Rajasthan circle letter no.CGMT/RAJ/Corr/2022 dated July 29, 2022.

We are writing this letter in continuation of the "Perform or Perish" Revival Package for BSNL, announced by the government on 27th July, 2022, as well as the speech delivered by the CMD BSNL, to the CGMs on 28th July, 2022, through video conferencing and also the letter written by the CGM, Rajasthan circle, which is cited under reference.

The speech delivered by Shri P.K. Purwar, CMD BSNL, to the CGMs on 28th July, 2022, through video conferencing, is being widely circulated in the social media. In this speech, the CMD BSNL has quoted the Hon'ble Prime Minister as asking, how many employees have been sent home for inefficiency and on how many employees action has been taken under FR 56 (J).

The inference of the above quotations of the Hon'ble Prime Minister is that, the Company's performance has not improved even after the announcement of the 1st Revival Package for BSNL and MTNL, is only due to the non-performance of the employees. We wish to firmly state that, it is uncharitable to put the blame on the employees, for the failure of the Company to improve it's financial condition. Even the lay-man knows that, the failure of BSNL to launch it's 4G service, is the main reason for it's worsening financial condition.

Why BSNL is unable to launch it's 4G service, is known to everyone. Despite the announcement made by the government in the Revival Package announced on 23rd October, 2019, that 4G spectrum valued at Rs.23,814 crore would be allotted to BSNL, the Company was never allowed to make use of the same, due to the road-blocks created by none other than the government.

Immediately after the announcement of the Revival Package on 23rd October, 2019, the AUAB approached the CMD BSNL and demanded that BSNL's 49,300 4G compatible BTSs should be upgraded, so that BSNL could start it's 4G service latest by April, 2020. But this was never done by the Management. Subsequently, the AUAB was told by the CMD BSNL that, **the government did not give approval for the aforementioned upgradation of the BTSs.**

The tender floated by BSNL in March, 2020, to procure 50,000 4G BTSs was also cancelled as per the direction of the government. Further, BSNL was directed to procure it's 4G equipments only from Indian vendors and not from global vendors, as is being done by the private operators. This denial of level playing field to BSNL, vis-à-vis the private operators, delivered a deadly blow to BSNL's 4G launching. Presently, BSNL's 4G launching is not at all at sight. When this being the fact, how the government and the Management can hold the employees responsible for the failure of the Company to improve it's financial condition?



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Immediately after the retrenchment of 80,000 employees under VRS-2019, the CMD BSNL also retrenched thousands of contract workers, despite strong objections from BSNLEU and BSNL Casual Contract Workers Federation (BSNL CCWF). ***The ill-conceived decision of the CMD BSNL, to retrench the contract workers massively, has undoubtedly worsened the shortage of manpower at the field level, created by the implementation of VRS.***

What is urgently required to improve BSNL's financial health, is the immediate launching of BSNL's 4G service. In this connection, it is also our duty to point out that, procuring substandard equipments from an Indian vendor with unproven technology, will not help BSNL to compete with private operators having equipments procured from global vendors.

Thus, when the onus for the failure of BSNL lies with the government and the BSNL Management, it is not appropriate on the part of the CMD BSNL and the Management to send out threats that, the employees would be fired if the Company does not improve its performance even after the announcement of the 2nd Revival Package. We request the CMD BSNL and the Management to desist from making such threats. Having said this, BSNLEU, being the Main Recognised Union of the Non-Executives, wishes to state that, the employees are willing to extend their fullest co-operation to the endeavours of the Management, to pull this great Organisation out of its financial crisis.

In this connection, we also record our strongest protest to the statement made by the CGM, Rajasthan circle, vide his letter cited under reference. In this letter, the CGM, Rajasthan has stated that, ***the employees are expected to give 10 to 12 hours of productive work every day.*** The Management cannot indulge in the unfair labour practice of increasing the working hours of the employees, beyond the existing limits. Any such attempt to be made by the Management, will be resisted with the collective might of the Executives and Non-Executives of BSNL.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,


[P. Abhimanyu]
General Secretary

Copy to: (1) Shri S.C. Joshi, Chief Labour Commissioner (Central), Shram Shakti Bhawan, Rafi Marg, New Delhi-100 001
(2) Dr. R.G. Meena, Dy. Chief Labour Commissioner (Central), Jeevan Deep Building, New Delhi-110 001
(3) All the Directors of the BSNL Board.
(4) Ms. Anita Johri, PGM(SR), BSNL CO., Bharat Sanchar Bhawan, Janpath, New Delhi – 110 001