



P. Abhimanyu
General Secretary

BSNL EMPLOYEES UNION

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BSNLEU/100 (CHQ)

03.04.2020

To,

**Shri A.M. Gupta,
GM (SR), BSNL C.O.,
Bharat Sanchar Bhawan,
Janpath, New Delhi – 110 001**

Sir,

Sub: - **Contribution to PM-CARES Fund - req.**

Ref: - **BSNL letter no.BSNL/7-2/SR/2020 dated 3rd April, 2020.**

We acknowledge receipt of the letter cited under reference. We wish to convey the following on this matter.

The spirit behind formation of the PM-CARES Fund is to take care of the marginalised and weaker sections of the society, at a time when the COVID-19 has struck the nation. It is needless to mention that, there are around 40,000 to 50,000 contract workers in BSNL who fall under the category of “marginalised and weaker” section.

These contract workers have not been paid wages for the past 10 months, as a result of which 7 contract workers have already committed suicide. Even though, BSNL is undergoing a financial crisis, the Management could have released funds at least to partially clear the outstanding wages of the contract workers, which has not been done. After the COVID-19 struck the nation, the Labour and Finance Ministries have issued serious instructions, directing that the contract workers should not suffer loss of wages, in the backdrop of the COVID-19 disaster. Citing these instructions, BSNLEU has written to the Management demanding to clear the wage arrears of the contract workers.

Having not received a favourable response from the Management, BSNLEU has already given call to its members, to liberally donate to the “Contract Workers' Relief Fund”, to extend relief to the suffering contract workers, on a war-foot basis. We have got a very good response from our members. Employees are contributing from Rs.1,000/- to Rs.10,000/- to this Fund. All these details are being uploaded on our Union website on daily basis. Further, we have already started rushing relief to the affected contract workers, utilising this fund.

Apart from this, various state governments have also given call for contributions, to face the critical situation created by the COVID-19. Employees are also responding to these calls. For example, the BSNL employees in Kerala, have already given contributions in a big way, to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund, to fight the COVID-19 menace.

Hence, in the backdrop of the aforementioned situation, we wish to state that, we are unable to agree to the proposal of deducting one day's salary.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

[P.Abhimanyu]
General Secretary