

Co-ordination Committee of BSNLEU, AIBDPA and BSNLCCWF.

Fight against the National Monetisation Pipeline.

On 23rd August, 2021, the Modi government announced the **National Monetisation Pipeline**. This is nothing but a massive privatisation of the valuable national assets. According to this, the national assets of the country will be handed over to the big corporates at cheap rates.

As per the National Monetisation Pipeline, The government has decided to hand over 14,917 mobile towers of BSNL and MTNL to the private corporates. Further, 2.86 lakh kilometre length of Optic Fibre of the Bharat Net is also going to be handed over to the private. It must not be forgotten that, the government has stated in the budget that, it is going to raise Rs.40,000 crore, by way of monetisation of the mobile towers and the optic fibre cable of BSNL and MTNL.

Hence, we must understand that, the 7 lakh kilometre length of optic fibre network of BSNL is going to be the next target of the government. BSNL will be converted into a skeleton, if it's mobile towers and optic fibre cables are handed over to the private. This is nothing but the back-door method of the privatising BSNL.

It is shocking that, in the name of National Monetisation Pipeline, the government has decided to hand over, 26,700 kms Highway (worth Rs.1.6 lakh crore), 400 railway stations and 150 trains (worth Rs.1.5 lakh crore), 42,300 circuit kms of Power Transmission Lines (worth Rs.0.67 lakh crore), 5,000 MW Hydro, Solar and Wind Power Generation assets (worth Rs.0.32 lakh crore), 8,000 kms of National Gas Pipe lines (worth Rs.0.24 lakh crore), 4,000 kms Pipe lines of IOC and HPCL (worth Rs.0.22 lakh crore), 21 Airports and 31 Ports (worth Rs.0.3 lakh crore), 160 Coal Mining Projects (worth Rs.0.3 lakh crore) and 2 Sports Stadiums (worth Rs.0.11 lakh crore).

The government says that, even after handing over the above mentioned national assets to the private, the ownership of these assets will continue to remain with the government. This statement of the government is nothing but a sugar-coated poison. The assets once handed over to the private, will never come back to the government again.

After the Modi government came to power, it took maximum efforts to privatise the public sector companies. However, due to the continuous struggles and stiff resistance of the Indian working class, led by the Central Trade Unions, the government is not able to privatise the public sector companies as easily as it wanted. This is the reason why the National Monetisation Pipeline, which is nothing but the back-door privatisation, has been brought.

The Central Trade Unions have decided to firmly fight against the National Monetisation Pipeline. They are organising a National Convention of Workers at Jantar Mantar, New Delhi, on 11th November, 2021, to finalise their strategy to fight against the National Monetisation Pipeline. It is the bounden duty of the BSNL employees and their unions and associations to join the struggle to be called on by the Central Trade Unions, against the National Monetisation Pipeline.

The Co-ordination Committee of BSNL Employees Union (BSNLEU), All India BSNL and DoT Pensioners Association (AIBDPA) and the BSNL Casual & Contract Workers Federation (BSNLCCWF) has called on the BSNL employees, pensioners and workers to fight against the National Monetisation Pipeline. As a first step, countrywide demonstrations are being organised on 09th November, 2021. This is to be followed by signature campaign among the employees and the general public, to create an awareness against the National Monetisation Pipeline. The Co-ordination Committee has also called on to organise district and circle level conventions, against the National Monetisation Pipeline. The circle and district level organisations of the Coordination Committee, are requested to successfully organise the above mentioned programmes.

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