



P. Abhimanyu
General Secretary

BSNL EMPLOYEES UNION

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04.07.2022

BSNLEU/ 604 (DEV)

To,

**Shri Ashwini Vaishnav ji,
Hon'ble Minister of Communications & IT,
Government of India,
Sanchar Bhawan 20, Ashoka Road,
New Delhi - 110 001**

Sir,

Sub: - Requesting to ensure the on time launching of 5G service by BSNL - req.

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

Time and again, it has been reiterated by the government that, BSNL is a strategic asset of the nation. Being a government telecommunications company, the role of BSNL cannot be underestimated in 'nation-building.'

Whenever natural calamities like cyclone, flood, etc., struck the nation, it was BSNL which stood in the forefront to help the government, for carrying out relief and rescue operations. It is also an undeniable fact that, the private companies had invariably shut down their services in times of all such natural calamities.

However, it is sad to note that, this government service provider is being continuously starved technologically. For example, the government allowed the private telecom companies to start mobile service in the year 1995. However, this permission was not given to the government service provider. As a result, BSNL could launch its mobile service only in October, 2002. In the similar manner, 4G service was launched by the private operators in 2012. However, 4G technology was denied to BSNL. As a result, still BSNL is struggling to launch its 4G service.

Presently, India is in the process of switching over to 5G technology. According to the Cabinet decision, auctioning of 5G spectrum is going to take place in this month itself and 5G service is likely to be launched by the private telecom companies by the year end. This is what we learn from media reports.

However, it is a matter of deep concern that, BSNL is nowhere in the picture. In February, 2022, the Hon'able Finance Minister announced in the Parliament that, 5G service would be launched in this financial year itself, by the private telecom operators. The announcement by the Hon'ble Finance Minister implied that, the public sector BSNL would have no role in the launching of 5G service.

It is a fact that, BSNL has not yet launched its 4G service. However, this should not be the reason for denying 5G technology to BSNL. Our fervent appeal is that, 5G technology should not be denied to BSNL, as 4G technology was denied almost for 10 years. As you are very well aware sir, BSNL cannot survive without timely upgradation of technology.

In view of this, we earnestly implore upon you sir, to kindly ensure that, BSNL plays its due role in providing 5G service to the nation. Hence, while requesting you to kindly ensure the immediate launching of 4G service by BSNL, we also request you to ensure the on time launching of 5G service by the Company.

Thanking you.

Yours sincerely,

(P.Abhimanyu)
General Secretary

Copy to: (1) Shri K. Rajaraman, Secretary Telecom, Government of India, Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi-110001
(2) Shri P.K. Purwar, CMD BSNL, Bharat Sanchar Bhawan, Janpath, New Delhi – 110 001
(3) Shri Arvind Vadnerkar, Director (HR), BSNL, Bharat Sanchar Bhawan, Janpath, New Delhi – 110 001
(4) Ms. Yojana Das, Director (Finance), BSNL, Bharat Sanchar Bhawan, Janpath, New Delhi – 110001
(5) Shri Vivek Banzal, Director (CFA) & CM, BSNL, Bharat Sanchar Bhawan, Janpath, New Delhi – 110001
(6) Shri V. Ramesh, Director (EB), BSNL, Bharat Sanchar Bhawan, Janpath, New Delhi – 110 001