

BSNL EMPLOYEES UNION

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08.03.2019

Main Recognised Representative Union.

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Opp. Shadipur Bus Depot, New Delhi-110008

Central Head Quarters

P. Abhimanyu General Secretary

BSNLEU/ 100 (GL)

To,

Com. Tapan Sen, General Secretary, CITU, B. T. Ranadive Bhawan, 13 A, Rouse Avenue, New Delhi- 110 002

Comrade,

Sub: - Non-payment of salary to the BSNL employees, for the month of February, 2019 - reg.

We wish to bring to your kind notice that payment of salary to the 1.68 lakh employees and officers of BSNL, has not been made so far, for the month February, 2019. The Corporate Management is telling that they do not have the cash flow, for making payment of the salary. This is the first time in it's 18 years' existence, that BSNL has been not able to pay salary to it's employees.

You are aware that the revenue earnings of all the telecom service providers have drastically dipped, due to the brutal tariff war initiated by Reliance Jio. All the telecom companies, except Reliance Jio, are running into loss now. Due to this prevalent market condition, BSNL is facing financial crunch, as a result of which, the Company is unable to pay salary to it's employees.

Industry analysts say that this tariff war may continue for some more time. Till such time, BSNL, being a Public Sector Company, needs the support of the government, to tide over its financial crisis. It is very relevant to mention here that, Prime Minister Narendra Modi proudly mentioned in his Independence Day speech in 2015, that BSNL has started making operational profit. However, it is a matter of deep regret that, the government is not extending it's helping hand to BSNL, at a time when the Company is facing a financial problem. Rather, the DoT is not allowing BSNL to take bank loans to meet it's operational expenditures. The DoT is allowing BSNL to take bank loans only for capital expenditure. Due to this stringent condition imposed by the DoT, BSNL is unable to get bank loans, to meet it's operational expenditures.

It is very relevant to mention here that, total debt of BSNL is only Rs.13,900 crores. Whereas, the debt of Vodafone Idea is Rs.1,20,000 crore and debt of Airtel is Rs.1,13,000 core. The debt of Reliance Jio is said to be Rs.2,00,000 crores. It is needless to state that these private telecom companies have taken sizable loans from the public sector banks. This, it is unfair on the part of the government to impose unreasonable conditions, for BSNL to get bank loans.

It goes without saying that the stringent condition imposed by the DoT is only intended at crippling BSNL financially. Further, we also wish to bring to your kind notice that the DoT and the BSNL Management are contemplating to implement VRS in BSNL, which has been stiffly opposed by BSNLEU. Thus, through blocking the payment of salary of the BSNL employees, the government is trying to create a fear psychosis among the employees, to force the employees to opt to go on VRS, whenever it is implemented.

Under the aforementioned circumstances, we request you to kindly intervene and to do the needful, so that the stringent condition imposed by the DoT, for BSNL to take bank loans, are relaxed.

Thanking you,

Yours fraternally,

[P. Abhimanyu] General Secretary