



**P. Abhimanyu**  
General Secretary

# BSNL EMPLOYEES UNION

Central Head Quarters

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**BSNLEU/ 604 (DEV)**

**13.02.2024**

To,

**Shri Ashwini Vaishnav ji,  
Hon'ble Minister for Communications,  
Sanchar Bhawan,  
20, Ashoka Road,  
New Delhi - 110 001.**

Respected sir,

Sub: - **BSNL's 4G launching getting inordinately delayed – requesting to consider the alternative option of allowing BSNL to provide 4G service to it's customers, by utilising Vodafone Idea's network, as a temporary measure - req.**

Ref: - **BSNLEU letter no.BSNLEU/604(DEV) dated 17.01.2024.**

Your kind reference is invited to BSNLEU's letter cited under reference, wherein we have sought your kind and immediate intervention for the launching of BSNL's 4G & 5G services without further delay. In continuation of this, we wish to bring the following to your kind notice for favour of immediate action to be taken by the Government of India.

In our letter cited under reference, we have quoted the data released by the TRAI, as per which 22,20,654 customers, had ported out from BSNL in the month of August 2023, and in the month of September, 2023, another 23,26,751 customers had ported out from BSNL. These data only indicate that, the customers are porting out from BSNL massively and the reason for this massive exodus is nothing but the non-availability of high speed data service with BSNL, since the Public Sector Company has not yet launched it's 4G service.

The CMD BSNL had earlier informed the unions and associations of BSNL that, BSNL would launch it's PAN India level 4G service in October, 2024. However, in a meeting held with the unions and associations at Ahmedabad a week ago, the CMD BSNL has informed that, BSNL's 4G service would be launched in December, 2024. The shifting in the date of BSNL's 4G launching is due to the fact that, the delivery and installation of 4G equipments to BSNL, by the TCS, is getting inordinately delayed. We learn that, the 4G equipments of the TCS have not even completed the field trials till today. Our genuine apprehension is that, the commissioning of BSNL's 4G network by TCS may get even more delayed.

***The ground reality is that, both Reliance Jio and Airtel, armed with the state-of-the-art 5G technology, have started poaching BSNL's customers. In this backdrop, the delay in BSNL's 4G launching is seriously affecting the Company's financial revival, as envisaged under the Revival Packages offered by the Government of India.***

Presently, the Government of India is Vodafone Idea Limited's (Vi) largest shareholder, with a 33.1% stake, after the accrued interest towards the AGR arrears of the Vi was converted into equity in February, 2023. UK's Vodafone Plc and India's Aditya Birla Group jointly own 50.4% in Vi.

Under the above mentioned circumstances, we request that, the Government of India, by utilising its status as the largest shareholder in Vi, may kindly ensure that, BSNL is allowed to immediately provide 4G service to its customers, by utilising the 4G network of Vi. This will only be a temporary measure, till BSNL's 4G network is commissioned by the TCS.

We earnestly appeal to you sir, to kindly consider this suggestion and ensure the immediate launching of BSNL's 4G service. This timely intervention, to be made by the Government of India, will go in a big way to stop the massive exodus of BSNL's customers and also to ensure the early revival of BSNL.

Thanking you,

*Yours sincerely,*



**[P. Abhimanyu]**  
**General Secretary**

Copy to: (1) Dr. Neeraj Mittal, Secretary, Telecom, DoT, Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi - 110001  
(2) Shri P.K. Purwar, CMD BSNL, Bharat Sanchar Bhawan, Janpath, New Delhi - 110001  
(3) Shri Sandeep Govil, Director (CM), BSNL, Bharat Sanchar Bhawan, Janpath, New Delhi - 110001