BSNL EMPLOYEES UNION
Recognised Union in BSNL
(Registered Under Indian Trade Union Act 1926. Regn.No.4896)
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P. Abhimanyu
General Secretary

BSNLEU/102 (Circular No.01) 17th January, 2017

To
All Circle Secretaries,
Central office-bearers &
District Secretaries

The landmark All India Conference.

Dear comrade,

The 8th All India Conference of our Union was held at Chennai from 31st December, 2016 to 3rd January, 2017. The Reception Committee, under the chairmanship of com. T.K. Rangarajan, M.P., has made elaborate arrangements for the Conference. The venue of the Conference, the Kamaraj Arangam at Teynampet, Chennai, was beautifully decorated and the roads leading to the venue bore a festive look with red banners and festoons. The Conference took off with the flag hoisting ceremony. Com. Balbir Singh, President, hoisted the tri-colour National Flag. Com. P. Abhimanyu, General Secretary, hoisted the Union Red Flag. Floral tributes were paid at the martyr’s column, by the leaders and delegates.

Impressive Seminar.
Immediately thereafter, the seminar of the Conference, titled “Service With A Smile for the Revival of BSNL” started. Com. T.K. Rangarajan, M.P., Chairman of the Reception Committee and com. S.Chellappa, AGS, Working Chairman of the Reception Committee, delivered the welcome address. Shri Anupam Shrivastava, CMD BSNL, senior officers of the Company and leaders of the fraternal unions and associations were present in the seminar. The key note of the seminar was delivered by com. P.Abhimanyu, General Secretary. In his address, the General Secretary severely criticised the move being made by the government, to rob BSNL of its 65,000 mobile towers, by forming a separate tower company. He urged upon the employees to intensify the Service With A Smile movement, for the early revival of the BSNL. Shri Anupam Shrivastava, CMD BSNL, explained about the network expansion programme of the Company, as well as the business initiatives taken by the Management for the revival of BSNL. In the course of his speech, the CMD BSNL mentioned that it was his duty to settle the wage revision w.e.f. 01.01.2017. The seminar was also addressed by com. Chandeswar Singh, GS, NFTE, com. G.L. Jogi, Chairman, SNEA, shri A.M. Gupta, GM (SR), BSNL C.O., com. Jayaprakash, GS, FNTO, com. Shivakumar, President, AIBSNLEA, com. Suresh Kumar, GS, BSNL MS, com. Chellapandi, President, TEPU and com. Swapan Chakraborty, Dy.GS, BSNLEU. The seminar gave the right message to the employees that the SWAS movement should be intensified for the revival of BSNL.

Delegates session.
Com. A.K. Padmanabhan, Vice President, CITU, with his inaugural address, set the tone for the conference. While stating that defending the public sector was defending the sovereignty of the country, com. AKP went on to explain how the two and half year rule of the Modi government had unleashed attacks on the Public Sector. While explaining how the Demonetisation has caused sufferings to the working masses, he asserted that the Modi government has not fulfilled any of it’s assurance given in the 2014 Parliament elections. He called upon the trade union movement to fight against those forces which divide the people in the name of caste, religion, region, etc. Fighting for the rights of women is an inseparable task of the trade union movement, said com. AKP. While drawing the attention of the delegates to the centenary celebrations of the October Revolution, he explained that even though the Soviet Union has got disintegrated, the concept of ‘Scientific Socialism’ has not faded. He cited the example of the 44 day long strike by the 39,000 employees of the US communication giant, Verizon, to defend their jobs and existing rights. The fact that 46% of the wealth of the world is controlled by 0.73% of the population, not only highlights the prevalence of extreme inequality, but also underscores the fact
that Scientific Socialism is the only alternative. Com. AKP exorted that the trade unions should combine their struggles for the betterment of the workers with this understanding.

The inaugural session was also addressed by com. Raj Bahadur Rawal, President, Telecom Employees Association of Nepal (TEAN), com. M. Krishnan, Secretary General, Confederation of Central Government Employees, com. V. Ramesh, General Secretary, AliEA, com. K.G. Jayaraj, General Secretary, AIBDPA and com. Animesh Mitra, Secretary General, BSNL CCWF also addressed the inaugural session. After the inaugural session, a colourful cultural programme was organised by the Reception Committee. Altogether, 4,200 comrades attended the proceedings of the Conference on the first day.

On the 2nd day morning, the subjects committee started. From the 2nd day onwards, only 1632 registered delegates and observers (1037 delegates, 535 observers and 60 CEC members) were permitted to attend the delegates session. A presidium, consisting of com. Balbir Singh, President and all the vice-presidents of the union, presided over the session. Com. Swapan Chakraborty, Dy.GS, moved the condolence resolution and the house stood in silence for a minute. The agenda of the Conference was approved by the house and various committees for conducting specific functions were formed. Thereafter, com. P. Abhimanyu, General Secretary, presented the report on activities in detail. Campaign conducted by BSNLEU to make the General Strikes successful in 2015 and 2016, the various initiatives taken by BSNLEU for the revival of the Company, settlement of PLI for 2014 – 15, removal of the ceiling on government’s pension contribution, struggle against the formation of the Subsidiary Tower Company, strategy for settling wage revision from 01.01.2017, efforts taken to resolve the long pending issues of the Non-Executives and steps taken by BSNLEU to strengthen the unity of the unions and associations of BSNL, are the important issues that found mention in the General Secretary’s presentation.

Followed by the presentation of the General Secretary, deliberation by the delegates started. Totally 105 delegates participated in the debate. The deliberations made by many delegates were of high quality. The pro-corporate and anti-people policies of the Narendra Modi government, including the Demonetisation, came under severe criticism. Divisive policies which spread communal tension in the country came under severe attack. Almost all the delegates expressed their strong resolve to go on intensified struggles against formation of the Subsidiary Tower Company and other steps being taken by the government to weaken BSNL. Despite the bitterness created at the time of the campaign for 7th Membership Verification, most of the delegates deeply appreciated the CHQ, for it’s initiative to strengthen unity among the unions and associations of BSNL. There was a general satisfaction about the improvements brought by the central leadership in the functioning of the CHQ. All the delegates expressed in one voice that the wage revision from 01.01.2017 should be settled at any cost, for which the unity should be strengthened. Finally, the General Secretary summed up the discussions. With some amendments, the report presented by the General Secretary was unanimously approved. Similarly, the audited accounts for the years 2014 and 2015 were also approved.

**Decisions of the Conference.**

After threadbare discussions in the Conference, the following decisions were taken:-

1. Intensified united struggles should be conducted to stop the Subsidiary Tower Company. Massive campaign programme like human chain, march to Raj Niwas, march to Parliament, postcard campaign, etc., are to be launched, in consultation with other unions and associations. Needful action should also be taken, in coordination with other unions and associations, to ensure that 4G spectrum is allotted free of cost to BSNL.

2. The union should keep on mobilising the employees against the anti-BSNL and anti-PSU policies of the government. The union should remain in the forefront to organise the struggles called on by the Central Trade Unions, against the pro-corporate and anti-people policies of the government.

3. The union should contribute to preserve communal harmony and to oppose communal and divisive forces.

4. Centenary Year of the Great October Revolution is to be observed, by organising seminars in various centres.

5. High priority should be given to settle wage revision from 01.01.2017. Special attention should be paid to avoid stagnation. United struggles should be launched if necessary.
(6) Service With A Smile programme should be intensified. Special attention should be paid to improve the quality of service by maintaining fault free networks. Massive campaign like melas, road shows, etc., should be conducted to popularise BSNL’s tariffs and products.

(7) Efforts should be taken unitedly with other unions and associations to find solution to the long pending issues of the Non-Executives.

(8) All the circle and district unions should take all necessary steps to ensure implementation of the Corporate Office orders on the issues of the Casual and Contract Workers, like payment of minimum wages through cheque or online, implementation of EPF and ESI. BSNL CCWF has given call for a “March to the Parliament” on 22.02.2017. All out efforts should be taken by the circle unions to mobilise maximum employees in this programme and also to help BSNL CCWF to raise funds for this programme.

(9) All circle unions should take necessary steps to strengthen AIBDPA. Needful steps should be taken to form the circle and district level organisations of AIBDPA, in case they are not formed so far.

(10) Study classes, under the banner of K.G. Bose Memorial Trust, are already organised in four centres. Further, these study classes should be organised in all the circles.

Amendments to the Constitution.

(1) The monthly subscription of the union is to be raised to Rs.45/- and the same is to be allocated in the following ratio to the various levels:-

   (a) All India Conference – Rs.5/-
   (b) CHQ – Rs.12/-
   (c) Circle – Rs.10/-
   (d) District – Rs.10/-
   (e) Branch – Rs.8/-

(2) At present the financial year of the Union is from January to December. This is to be amended so that the financial year shall be from April to March.

Election of office bearers.

The following office bearers are elected unanimously:-

President : Shri Balbir Singh, Office Superintendent (G) - Ludhiana, Punjab
Vice-presidents : Shri P. Asokababu, Retd. - Vijayawada.
                : Shri Animesh Chandra Mitra, Office Superintendent (P) - ETR, Kolkata, West Bengal.
                : Shri R.S.Chouhan, Office Superintendent (G) - NTR, New Delhi.
                : Shri N. K. Nalawade, Office Superintendent - O/o AGM, (Admn.), Pune, Maharashtra.
                : Shri K.R. Yadav - Office Superintendent (P) - Lucknow, UP (East).

General Secretary : Shri P. Abhimanyu, Retd. - Puducherry, Tamil Nadu.

Dy. General Secretary : Shri Swapan Chakraborty, Office Superintendent (P), Tripura, NE-1.

Asst. General Secretaries : Shri Saibal Sengupta, Office Superintendent (P) - Kolkata.
                            : Shri S. Chellappa, Office Superintendent(P) - O/o CGM, Tamil Nadu.
                            : Shri John Verghese, Office Superintendent (P) - Aurangabad, Maharashtra.
                            : Shri S. Pratap Kumar, Office Superintendent - PGM(O), Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala
                            : Shri M.K. Dave, Office Superintendent(P) – Navsari, Gujarat

Treasurer : Shri Gokul Borah, Office Superintendent (T) - Tezpur, Assam

Asst.Treasurer : Shri P.K. Nayak, Office Superintendent(T) – O/o GM, Balasore, Odisha

Organising Secretaries : Shri Om Prakash Singh, Progress Man - Telecom Factory, Kolkata.
                        : Shri Vijay Singh, Telecom Technician - Jaipur, Rajasthan.
                        : Shri Sukhwir Singh, Office Superintendent (T) - Aligarh, UP (West).
                        : Shri G.Q. Dandroo, Telecom Technician - Srinagar, J&K.
                        : Shri M. Vijayakumar, Junior Engineer- Kozhikode, Kerala.
                        : Shri H.V. Sudharshon, Office Superintendent(P) – O/o PGM, Bangalore.
                        : Shri Mohan Reddy, Telecom Technician, Adarsh Nagar, Hyderabad.
Resolutions.
The following resolutions are passed in the All India Conference:-

1) Wage Revision from 01.01.2017.
2) Settlement of long pending demands of the Non-Executives.
3) Demonetisation.
4) Observing the centenary year of the Great October Socialist Revolution.
5) Communal Harmony.
6) BSNL facing competition and advancing as a strong PSU in the changed scenario in telecom sector.
7) Strengthening the united struggles of BSNL employees and working class.
8) Equal Pay for Equal Work.

Thanking you,

Yours fraternally

[P. Abhimanyu]
General Secretary