

BSNL EMPLOYEES UNION

Recognised Union in BSNL

(Registered Under Indian Trade Union Act 1926. Regn.No.4896)

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V.A.N. Namboodiri

General Secretary

BSNLEU/102(CIRCULAR NO.01)

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JOINT FORUM CALLS FOR AGITATION TO SAVE BSNL

Dear Comrades,

The meeting of the Joint Forum of BSNL Associations / unions of Executives and Non-executives which met on 1st January, 2010 at New Delhi has called upon the workers to be prepared for serious struggles to save BSNL from the continued onslaughts by vested interests. It has also decided to send telegrams to Shri Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister of India in this respect. Joint Forum has also called upon the BSNL Workers to organize demonstrations on 5th January, 2010 demanding immediate purchase order for the 93 million GSM lines by BSNL, which tender is pending for the last 2 years.

93 Million GSM Tender: - You are fully aware of the peculiar situation in 2007, when the entire BSNL Workers on the call of Joint Forum went on strike on 11.07.2007 to ensure purchase order for the 45.5 million GSM lines to enable the BSNL to provide connections to the people. Due to the struggle we were able to get at least 50% of the GSM lines, which helped us to a certain extent. At that time management as well as Minister Communications assured that another big tender will be floated and in future there will be no dearth of lines. With fanfare it was announced in 2007 itself that a global tender is floated for 93 million lines.

BSNL goes down: - Delay and reduction in obtaining lines in 2007-2008 had drastic adverse effects for future of BSNL. While private companies were providing more than 20 lakh connections in a month, BSNL, deprived of supply of lines, could give only less than 10 lakhs on an average. As a result, while keeping the first position in landlines, BSNL has slipped to 4th position in mobile and 3rd position in total of land line and mobile connections. The following table shows the position of each company as on 31.11.2009 as per TRAI report:

Company	Landline	Mobile	Total	Total %
BSNL	28214154	60780512	88994666	16.38
Bharti Airtel	2967492	116013951	118981443	21.90
Reliance	1160637	90987594	92148231	16.96
Vodafone Essar		88607607	88607607	16.31
Idea		55905178	55905178	10.29

In 2006 BSNL, which was in second position due to delay in getting mobile licence, was providing more connection than Bharati Airtel, which was the No.1 at that time and was almost to reach the

first position, slipped down drastically as there was no GSM lines to provide connections. If the 45.5 million GSM lines had been purchased in time, this grave situation could have been avoided.

The present one is a similar situation. The private telcos and other vested interests will try to ensure that BSNL is deprived of the 93 million lines. After floating the tender, Nokia went to court as also an inquiry was conducted as directed by CVC. Both the High Court case and enquiry cleared BSNL deal. The unions were demanding for early purchase order. Now the BSNL Board in its meetings on 21st and 29th December, 2009 has decided to keep on hold the tender citing another CVC enquiry on irregularities. The conspiracy is to delay the tender and starve BSNL of lines which will help the private companies to go up at the cost of BSNL.

If the tender is further delayed BSNL will be doomed. The Prime Minister has now called a meeting of the Finance Minister, Communications Minister, Secretary DoT, CMD BSNL and Advisor to PM Shri Sam Pitroda etc. to discuss about BSNL. We have to ensure that the meeting takes positive decision with regard to the growth and expansion of BSNL. We have to put all efforts to ensure that the 93 million purchase orders are got issued.

Telegram Campaign: - Joint Forum in the meeting held on 1st January, 2010, after detailed discussion has decided to resort to agitational programmes to save BSNL and to ensure that purchase orders are issued for the 93 million GSM lines which is very much essential for the survival of BSNL. All Circle / District / Branch Secretaries are directed to send the following telegram to the Prime Minister immediately to ensure that justice is done to BSNL and the people.

To

**Shri Manmohan Singh,
Prime Minister of India,
New Delhi.**

**KINDLY INTERVENE TO SAVE BSNL BY IMMEDIATE
FINALISTION OF 93 MILLION GSM LINES.**

Name of Circle/District/Branch Union

This should be send immediately so that it reaches the PM well before 6th January, 2010 when the meeting called by Prime Minister takes place.

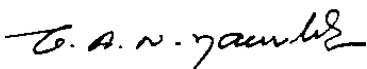
Demonstration on 5th January, 2010:- The Joint Form has also called that demonstrations should be held in front of all offices / exchanges on the same demand with maximum participation. The local officers should be asked to convey the strong feelings of the workers to the top management.

Send Report to CHQ: - Circle / District Secretaries are requested to send brief report about how many telegrams have been send and about the demonstrations, preferably with photos.

Further programmes will be decided later. Face

With Warm Greetings,

Yours Fraternaly,



**[V.A.N.Namboodiri]
General Secretary**