

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/604(DEV)

08.06.2009

To

**Shri Kuldeep Goyal,
CMD, BSNL,
Bharat Sanchar Bhawan,
New Delhi – 110001**

Sub: **Tenders for GSM lines and Wi-max**

Sir,

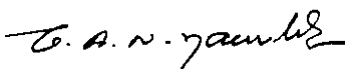
The deep decline of market share of BSNL during the last year is a very serious concern for all stakeholders including the work force in BSNL. This reduction is mainly due to the complications arisen in the tendering process of the 45 million GSM lines which resulted in non-availability of lines to BSNL to provide to the people. The tendering process took about two years and once the process was going to be finalised, Motorola filed case against its disqualification on technical grounds. Again when the process restarted, the BSNL Board itself decided to reduce the number of lines of the tender to half of its original 45 million, despite the one day successful strike of the workers demanding tender order for full lines. This action of the management resulted in the non-availability of lines for more than six months, during which period BSNL lost its first position in total connections and came down to fourth position in mobile services.

It seems that the same tragedy is going to be repeated again. The much publicised tender for 93 million GSM lines is in jeopardy. Not only that the tender process took intolerable long time, but has been entangled in court cases filed by Nokia Siemens, which has been disqualified on technical grounds this time. Further, the awarding of tender order to Chinese company Huawei, has been questioned by the Government /DOT on security grounds. It is another matter that the Government has not objected while private telcos are purchasing lines from the same and other Chinese companies. Again, BSNL is going to be starved of GSM lines to be provided to the people, who want BSNL connections.

We have no doubt that this is a conspiracy between the private telcos and the private suppliers as also certain forces in the Government to weaken and reduce BSNL and gradually privatise the same so that there will no public sector to compete with the private sector, which will enable them to increase the charges without any restraint and control. The fact that the telecom charges in India is one of the lowest in the world is due to the Fact the BSNL and MTNL, the Public Sector companies, are in the field. Once they are privatised or weakened, the entire situation will change for the worse. Can the management become a prey or party to this conspiracy, knowingly or unknowingly?

Immediate necessary action is required to change the present uncertainty and to ensure that the tenders for the 93 million lines are ordered without any delay, failing which the future of BSNL will be in jeopardy. (In this connection, we will like to mention that we pointed out about the complications in the Wi-max tender also). We hope that the BSNL management would rise to the occasion and act immediately and decisively.

Yours Sincerely,



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