FORUM OF BSNL UNIONS | ASSOCIATIONS

D-7, Telegraph Place, Gole Market, New Delhi – 110 001.

Dated: 18th July, 2013

<u>Decisions taken in the meeting of the Forum of BSNL</u> <u>Unions/Associations held on 17th July 2013.</u>

A meeting of the Forum of BSNL Unions/Associations was held on 17th July 2013 at BSNLMS Office. Com. Rajmouli, NFTE, presided. Com.V.A.N.Namboodiri, Convener, reported about the developments after the last meeting and also briefed on the agenda. After detailed discussions, the following decisions were taken:

1. Protest against FDI increase in telecom

The meeting expressed its strong protest against the government's decision to increase the FDI in telecom sector from 74% to 100% and defence sector from 26% to 49%. These are two sectors connected with national security and the present decision compromises security concerns of the nation. The unlimited FDI funds to private companies will adversely affect the growth of BSNL and MTNL. Immediately on hearing the proposal for increase in FDI in telecom, the Forum had given call for lunch hour demonstration on 9th July, which was well organised. The Forum decided to organise Badge wearing and Demonstration on 25th July protesting against the decision to increase FDI in Telecom and defence sectors and demanding that the decision be dropped forthwith. The following will be the slogan on the Badge:

DROP DECISION TO INCREASE FDI IN TELECOM AND DEFENCE

2. All India convention on 3rd August 2013

The Mavlankar Hall has been booked for the convention. Senior Trade Union leaders who are also Members of parliament have been invited to address the convention. Food packets will be supplied to the participants. Poster will be designed and put in the unions' websites. The circles/SSAs should print and supply. 1000 posters will be printed for Delhi.

All the unions should donate at least Rs. 5,000. Major unions should contribute more as agreed in the meeting. They should give an advance of Rs. 10,000 in addition to the amount already paid.

3. Closure of Telegram Services

Despite strong protest by the Forum, the management has closed the telegram services. The meeting expressed its protest against the closure. A PIL petition is pending in the Chennai High Court in which BSNLEU has also applied for getting impleaded. Though the booking of telegrams is stopped, due to the court case, the system and connections continue as it is.

4. 78.2% IDA pay fixation and connected issues

Though the order for payment of 78.2% IDA pay fixation has been issued, the following issues remain to be settled.

- a) Orders for pre-2007 and post 2007 pensioners are yet to be issued.
- **b)** Many allowances are granted at 68.8% IDA only, though the agreement between the BSNL Management and Forum did not have such a condition.
- c) Thousands of officials in the lowest payscales will not get the benefit of 78.2% IDA pay fixation, since they have already reached the maximum of the scale and is stagnating.
- d) The question of notional pension has to be examined.
- e) There was no agreement with the Forum regarding arrears, except that it will be paid when the financial position improves. But this is not specifically mentioned. All these issues are to be taken with the management. A meeting may be arranged with the CMD, preferably this week itself.

The other items in the agenda viz. **Grant of allowances to the executives and Non-executives as in the case of ITS officers ordered** now and **Retirement benefits to BSNL recruited employees** will be discussed in the Core Committee meeting to be held at 04.00 PM on 18th July at National Council Office, Room. No. 706, Corporate Office.

[V.A.N. Namboodiri]

To. A. N. yambe

Convener,

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