

BSNL EMPLOYEES UNION

Recognised Union in BSNL

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

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To

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

Comrades,

The historic Extended CEC meeting held at Pune.

The Extended CEC meeting of BSNLEU was held enthusiastically at Pune, from 29th to 31st July, 2019. The Maharashtra circle union, under the leadership of Com.N.K. Nalawade, CS, Maharashtra & Vice-President (CHQ), had made excellent arrangements for the meeting.

The flag hoisting ceremony took place at 10:00 AM on 29th July, 2019. The National Flag was hoisted by Com.N.K. Nalawade, CS, Maharashtra & Vice-President (CHQ). The Union Red Flag was hoisted by Com.J. Sampath Rao, CS, Telangana & AGS. The CEC meeting started with a welcome song by the Reception Committee. The Extended CEC meeting was presided over by the presidium consisting of Com.Animesh Mitra, President and all the Vice-Presidents of the CHQ.

The Reception Committee welcomed the leaders on the dias, with bouquets and shawls. Com.N.K. Nalawade, CS, Maharashtra & Vice-President (CHQ), welcomed everyone on behalf of the Reception Committee. Com.Swapan Chakraborty, Dy.GS, delivered the welcome address on behalf of the CHQ. The house stood in silence for a minute and paid it's respectful homage to the martyrs, as well as to the leaders and comrades, who passed away in the recent past. The presidential address of the Extended CEC meeting was delivered by Com.Animesh Mitra, President. Thereafter, Com.P.Abhimanyu, GS, addressed the Extended CEC meeting and explained about the approach to be adopted by BSNLEU, in the campaign to be conducted by BSNLEU, for the 8th Membership Verification.

In his address, the General Secretary, explained about the present financial condition of BSNL and the impact it has made in the mindset of the employees. He explained in detail about the anti-BSNL measures taken by the successive governments that came to power, as well as about the struggles and movements conducted by the unions and associations of BSNL. He also clearly spelt out the demands to be raised for the revival of BSNL and also the ways and means to achieve those demands to ensure the financial revival of BSNL. At the end of his presentation, the General Secretary asserted with confidence that with the collective efforts of the employees, the financial revival of BSNL was sure to be achieved. Shri Arvind Vadnerkar, PGM, Pune, as well as the selectee for the post of BSNL's Director (HR), greeted the meeting. He also read out the greeting message of the CGM, Maharashtra.

Deliberations by the district secretaries started in the post-lunch session of the first day. It continued till the end of the second day. Totally 83 district secretaries participated in the deliberations. By and large, the district secretaries endorsed the line of approach to the 8th Membership Verification campaign, as spelt out by the General Secretary.

The Central Executive Committee was held in the morning of the third day, i.e., on 31.07.2019. The meeting analysed the deliberations made by the district secretaries and expressed it's satisfaction for the same. The meeting also finalised the decisions to be taken and the resolutions to be adopted, by the Extended CEC meeting.

Before the summing up was delivered by the General Secretary, senior members of the CEC, viz., Com. Swapan Chakraborty, Dy.GS, Com.P.Asokababu, CS, AP, Com.J. Sampath Rao, CS, Telangana &

AGS, Com.C.K. Gundanna, CS, Karnataka, Com.Balbir Singh, CS, Punjab & Vice-President (CHQ), Com.S. Chellappa, AGS, Com.Ashok Pareek, CS, Rajasthan and Com.Prakash Sharma, CS, MP & AGS, addressed the meeting and explained about the need to fight against the anti-PSU and anti-BSNL measures of the government.

Thereafter, Com.P.Abhimanyu, GS, summed up the discussions. In his speech, the General Secretary recollected the achievements made by BSNLEU during the three year period after the 7th Membership Verification. After the summing up of the General Secretary, the meeting passed the following resolutions.

Resolutions passed in the Extended CEC meeting.

- 1) Resolution on Revival of BSNL – proposed by Com.Sisir Ray, CS, Kolkata and seconded by Com.Bijoy Deka, CS, Assam.
- 2) Resolution on 8th Membership Verification - proposed by Com.Swapan Chakraborty, Dy.GS and Com.K.S. Soun, CS, Uttarakhand.
- 3) Resolution opposing VRS in BSNL – proposed by Com.Babu Radhakrishnan, CS, Tamil Nadu and Com.C.K. Gundanna, CS, Karnataka.
- 4) Resolution on Wage Revision – proposed by Com.Santhosh Kumar, CS, Kerala and seconded by Com.Amitava Chatterjee, CS, West Bengal.
- 5) Resolution on Pension Revision for BSNL retirees – proposed by Com.D.K. Bakutra, CS, Gujarat and seconded by Com.K.C. Panwar, CS, Himachal Pradesh.
- 6) Resolution on settlement of the issues of casual and contract workers issues – proposed by Com.Ashok Pareek, CS, Rajasthan and seconded by Com. Iqbal Singh Dhillon, CS, Punjab.

Decisions of the Extended CEC meeting.

- 1) The meeting decided that the booklet released by the CHQ for the 8th Membership Verification, viz., (BSNL's revival – What needs to be done?), should be translated into all the regional languages and should be distributed widely among the Executives and Non-Executives of BSNL.
- 2) The meeting appreciated the dharna programme organised by BSNLEU and BSNLCCWF on 16.07.2019, and decided that a "March to the Labour Commissioner's offices" throughout the country should be organised. It was decided that the date for this programme should be fixed in consultation with the BSNLCCWF. The meeting also directed the CHQ to organise further programmes on this issue. After the Extended CEC meeting, BSNLEU and the BSNLCCWF have decided to organise the March to Labour Commissioner's office on 13-08-2019.
- 3) The meeting welcomed the order delivered by the Hon'ble Madras High Court, granting interim stay to the BSNL's letter no.BSNL/5-1/SR/2018 dated 02.07.2019, banning even peaceful trade union activities like dharna, demonstration, etc. The meeting advised the CHQ to take needful legal actions to thwart the gag order issued by BSNL Management, banning trade union activities.

AUAB Decisions.

A meeting of the AUAB was held on 01.08.2019, and reviewed the entire developments taking place in respect of the financial revival of BSNL. The AUAB has already written twice to the Hon'ble Minister of Communications & IT, requesting to grant a meeting. Similarly, the AUAB has also written twice to the Secretary, Telecom, requesting to grant a meeting. However, the meeting noted with regrets that neither the Hon'ble Minister of Communications & IT, nor the Secretary, Telecom, has granted any meeting to the AUAB. Thus, the unions and associations of BSNL are totally kept in the dark, while a lot is being heard about the steps being taken by the government with regards to the revival of BSNL. The meeting strongly felt that the unions and associations of the employees, being the important stakeholders of the Company, should be involved in the decision making, with regards to the financial revival of the Company.

The meeting also noted with serious concern that, the quality of BSNL's services is deteriorating day by day due to the non-availability of working capital. A large number of BTSSs, exchanges, etc., have been closed down due to the non-payment of electricity bills and rent. Contract workers are not paid wages for the past 7 months, which is also seriously affecting the services.

The meeting also took serious exception to the repressive measures being taken by the BSNL Management, against the unions and associations. Even peaceful demonstrations and dharnas have been banned in BSNL, which is nothing but the denial of fundamental rights of the employees of BSNL. After serious deliberations, the meeting decided to organise lunch hour demonstrations and gate meetings, throughout the country on 07.08.2019, demanding the following:-

Demands:

- 1) Honour the commitments given by the Union Cabinet in the year 2000, to ensure BSNL's financial viability.
 - a) Extend immediate financial support to BSNL, for the maintenance of the services.
 - b) Extend soft loan to BSNL for it's capital expenditures.
- 2) Remove the total ban imposed on capital expenditure by BSNL. Allow field units to carry out capital expenditure, where revenue is assured.
- 3) No retrenchment. Honour the commitment given on job security at the time of formation of BSNL.
- 4) Stop repressive actions for even legitimate trade union activities in BSNL.

All circle and district secretaries of BSNLEU are requested to fully implement the decisions of the Pune Extended CEC meeting of BSNLEU and the AUAB.

Thanking you,

Yours fraternally,



[P. Abhimanyu]
General Secretary