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BSNL EMPLOYEES UNION

Central Head Quarters

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BSNLEU/102 (Circular No.12)

10th October, 2020

To,

**Circle Secretaries,
Central office-bearers,
and District Secretaries.**

Dear comrades,

BSNLEU's call for campaign and strike.

As has already been informed, the CEC meeting of BSNLEU, held online on 10th & 11th September, 2020, has decided to conduct massive campaign among the employees, as well as the general public, during the months of September and October and thereafter to organise a strike in November, 2020. Denial of 4G technology to BSNL, the conspiracy hatched by the government to weaken BSNL and the non-settlement of important issues including Wage Revision and Pension Revision, shall be the main issues for the campaign and the strike. Accordingly, the campaign has started on 19.09.2020, with the observing of the Martyr's Day. The above mentioned issues have been sufficiently highlighted in the National Protest Day, observed on 23rd September, 2020 and also on the Black Day, observed on 01st October, 2020. The All India Centre meeting, held online on 09.10.2020, has finalised the charter of demands for the campaign and the strike as follows: -

- 1) Immediately launch BSNL's 4G service. No discrimination vis-a-vis the private companies in procurement of equipments.
- 2) Settle 3rd Wage Revision.
- 3) Stop retrenchment of contract workers through indiscriminate outsourcing of works. Reengage the retrenched contract workers. Immediately pay their wage arrears.
- 4) Settle pension revision from 01.01.2017.
- 5) Implement a New Promotion Policy for the Non-Executives.
- 6) Immediately hold the JTO LICE, JAO LICE, JE LICE and TT LICE.
- 7) Provide Rs.10 lakh cash compensation to the employees who die due to COVID-19, at par with the Postal Department. Ensure cashless treatment in the empanelled hospitals.
- 8) Implement Group Term Insurance (GTI) for the Non-Executives.
- 9) Implement 30% superannuation benefits to the Directly Recruited employees.
- 10) Implement revision of casual labourers' wages.

The All India Centre meeting has also decided to print and distribute handbills and posters in English and Hindi, for successfully organising the campaign and the strike. It is needless to state that the Non-Hindi speaking circle unions should print the handbills and posters in their local language.

Central Trade Unions' call for General Strike on 26.11.2020.

The National Convention of Workers, organised by the Central Trade Unions online on 02nd October, 2020, took serious view of the unprecedented attacks being launched on the public sector of the country. The Convention also took serious note of the attacks being launched on the hard-won rights of the workers, as well as on the trade union rights. The Coal Sector workers and BPCL workers have already gone on heroic struggles to stop privatisation. The Defence Ordnance Factory workers, who had already gone on a 5 day glorious strike in 2019, decided to go on an indefinite strike from 12th October, 2020. Based on

the negotiations held with the government, this strike has now been deferred. With the view to protect the public sector and the hard-worn rights of the workers, the National Convention has called on the Indian working class to organise a General Strike on 26th November, 2020, on the following demands: -

Charter of Demands:

- 1) Cash transfer of Rs 7500 per month for all non-income tax paying families.
- 2) 10 kg free ration per person per month to all needy.
- 3) Expansion of MGNREGA to provide 200 days' work in a year in rural areas, at enhanced wages; extension of employment guarantee to urban areas.
- 4) Withdraw all anti farmer laws and anti-worker Labour Codes.
- 5) Stop privatisation of the Public Sector including the financial sector and stop the corporatisation of Govt. run manufacturing and service entities like Railways, Ordnance Factories, Ports etc.
- 6) Withdraw the draconian circular on forced premature retirement of Government & PSU Employees.
- 7) Provide Pension to all, scrap NPS and restore earlier Pension, improve EPS-95.

Central Executive Committee meeting of BSNLEU is to be held online on 02.11.2020.

The All India Centre meeting of BSNLEU, held online on 09.10.2020, has decided to hold a one day Central Executive Committee meeting on 02.11.2020. Holding of the CEC meeting has become necessary, in view of the strike to be organised in November. This meeting will also be held online. All circle secretaries and central office bearers are requested to kindly attend the CEC meeting without fail.

CHQ appeals to collect Rs.20/- per member, as donation to the WFTU.

The World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) is the militant international organisation of the working class. The WFTU spearheads the struggles at the international level, against the exploitations on the working class and to protect their rights. The militant trade unions throughout the world, which are fighting against the anti-worker and pro-rich policies of their respective governments, are affiliated to the WFTU. BSNLEU is a part of the WFTU, through the Trade Union International (TUI) Transports and Communications. BSNLEU is regularly implementing the programmes being called on by the WFTU.

Since the WFTU is presently facing an acute financial crisis, the Head Quarters of the WFTU has appealed to it's affiliated trade unions to extend financial help. The WFTU has to remain strong and vibrant, to fight against the exploitations by the multinational corporates. Hence, the All India Centre meeting of BSNLEU, held online on 09.10.2020, has decided to call on the circle unions to collect **Rs.20/- per member** in the September salary payment and to send it to the CHQ. This is a very important duty of BSNLEU and all circle and district unions are requested to pay their full attention in collecting this donation and to send it to the CHQ. With the view to provide immediate financial help to the WFTU, the All India Centre has also decided to send Rs.30,000/- to the WFTU.

All India Centre constitutes BSNLEU's RTI Cell.

The Central Executive Committee meeting of BSNLEU held last month, has decided that RTI Cells of BSNLEU should be formed at the All India level, as well as at the circle level. Getting various inputs from the BSNL Management and the government, will be the job of these RTI Cells. The inputs so obtained from the Management and the government, will equip BSNLEU to effectively take up the issues with the Management and the government. In line with this decision of the CEC, the All India Centre meeting of BSNLEU, held online on 09.10.2020, has constituted the All India level RTI Cell of BSNLEU, with the following comrades as members: -

- (1) Com.C.K. Gundanna, former Circle Secretary, Karnataka.
- (2) Com.Mihir Dasgupta, former AGS.
- (3) Com.M.K. Dave, former Vice President (CHQ).

Com.C.K. Gundanna will function as the Convenor of this RTI Cell. All the circle unions are requested to immediately form their RTI Cells.

The All India Centre meeting, which is being held online once in a week, is closely monitoring the implementation of various calls being given by BSNLEU, the AUAB and the Central Trade Unions, by the different circles. With the view to ensure the effective implementation of the calls, the All India Centre meeting held on 28.09.2020 has decided to entrust the responsibility to the All India Centre members, of coordinating with certain circle unions, for the better implementation of the calls. The details are as follows:-

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| (1) Com. Animesh Mitra, President | – | UP(East), Jharkhand, Odisha and Chhattisgarh. |
| (2) Com.P.Abhimanyu, GS | – | Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir. |
| (3) Com. Swapan Chakraborty, Dy.GS | – | UP(West), Haryana, Bihar and Uttarakhand. |
| (4) Com. R.S. Chauhan, VP (CHQ) | – | BSNL Corporate Office. |
| (5) Com. Gakul Borah, Treasurer | – | Assam, NE-I and NE-II. |
| (6) Com. John Verghese, AGS | – | Gujarat and Rajasthan. |

The All India Centre members shall maintain close coordination with the circles allotted to them and guide the circle unions for better functioning as well as implementation of the calls. The Circle Secretaries of the above mentioned circles, are requested to make note of this decision and to cooperate with their respective All India Centre member.

Thanking you,

Yours fraternally,



[P. Abhimanyu]
General Secretary