



ALL INDIA
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No.AIBSNLOA/CHQ/2014/13

Dated: 7th February 2014

To

Shri Neeraj Verma,
General Manager (SR),
BSNL Corporate Office,
New Delhi.

Subject: Merger of BSNL and MTNL – regarding
Ref: BSNL CO letter No.BSNL/20-2/SR/2014 dated 4.2.2014

Sir,

We hereby acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the letter cited under reference seeking our views on the HR issues identified along with the comments by MTNL, based on the presentation made by Director (HR) of MTNL before the Steering Committee on merger of BSNL & MTNL, constituted by the DoT.

2. We are surprised by the time line given for expressing our view, viz. 3 days, on such a larger issue. But the fact that the Restructuring Cell has itself given only six days' time to the Recruitment, Personnel, Establishment and SR cells of BSNL Corporate Office shows that BSNL is under pressure from DoT on this important issue.

3. The issue of merger of BSNL and MTNL has been raised time and again during past five years, but had to be put on hold due to opposition from the BSNL employees as a whole and due to glitches such as MTNL being a listed company.

4. Recent media reports say "MTNL and BSNL are going to be merged after their network infrastructure and land assets are spun off into separate companies. Thus, we will have one infrastructure company, one land company and the third will be the merged telecom services entity." The reports also say that a Group of Ministers (GoM) will consider the trifurcation proposal. However, surprisingly the unions and associations are kept in dark on this trifurcation proposal.

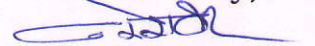
5. The priority should have been given to addressing larger concerns like the consequences of merging a listed company with BSNL, advisability of merging loss making MTNL thereby increasing the liability on BSNL when it is just showing signs of revival and absence of autonomy in decision making even after 13 years of its formation – which is the root cause for the situation both the PSUs are presently in.

6. Of course, resolving the HR issues involved is also an important matter, but it cannot be done hurriedly in a matter of days. Therefore BSNL should seek sufficient time to react to the DoT/MTNL proposals and consequently the BSNL unions and associations should be given more time to submit their views.

7. Most importantly, BSNL Management and its employees should 'Stand as One' to resist any plan by the DoT/the Government, which is detrimental to the growth and development of BSNL.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,



(Rakesh Sethi)

o/c General Secretary

- Copy to: 1. Shri A.N.Rai,
Director (HR), BSNL
2. Shri S.S.Agarwal,
Sr. General Manager (Pers), BSNL CO, ND-1
3. Shri R.K.Goyal,
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4. Shri Madhu Arora
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