

ALL INDIA BHARAT SANCHAR NIGAM LIMITED OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

CENTRAL HEAD QUARTER AD-87 B, PITAMPURA, Delhi-110034

Dated: 18th June 2020

PRESIDENT
P. RAMACHANDRAN
MOBILE: 9444903777

V. K. SHARMA
MOBILE: 9868174965

GENERAL SECRETARY RAKESH SETHI MOBILE: 9868210449

No.AIBSNLOA/CHQ/2020/16

To

Shri P.K.Purwar, Chairman and Managing Director, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, New Delhi-110001.

Subject: Second membership verification of Executive Associations - regarding

Ref: BSNL letter No. BSNL/5-2/SR/2019 dated 16th June 2020

R/Sir,

We are grievously shocked over the BSNL letter cited under reference, notifying 2^{nd} membership verification, at a time when BSNL is burning and not able to pay

- (i) Salary of its employees regularly,
- (ii) Medical bills to working as well as retired employees,
- (iii) Electricity bills,
- (iv) Vendor bills,
- (v) Contract labour wages.

In addition to this, an amount deducted from the salary of employees, against their society loan, bank loan, insurance premia, GPF contribution, etc. has not been paid to respective co-operative societies, to banks, to LIC and even to DoT. Not only this, when the entire country is burning due to the unforeseen COVID-19 crisis and in lockdown, fixing the date of election date as 18.8.2020, can only be called a wrongful decision. It is also a fact that as per the instructions issued by GOI and BSNL CO during lockdown, employees are also not attending the offices in full strength.

- 2. We have many times in the past questioned the wisdom of conducting membership verification of BSNL Executives. When no other CPSE, in India, has ever undertaken such membership verification among its executives, since the executives constitute the middle-level management and there is a need for teamwork and co-operation amongst them for ensuring efficient service delivery. A case filed by us on this issue is still pending in the court.
- 3. And now everyone has realized that in the three years, after the first membership verification of BSNL executive associations and recognizing two associations as Recognised and Support associations, did no good to either the BSNL organization or the BSNL Executives. A lot of developments, including repeat agitation calls by these associations without any attempt even to meet the concerned authorities during the last few years, have hastened the downfall of BSNL, and around 80000 employees have forced to take VRS.

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- 4. Instead of making efforts to get the revival package approved by the Cabinet implemented in toto, BSNL management is showing interest in non-productive issues like membership verification. We expect that the Management shall learn lessons from the past and take measures to streamline the working by boosting the morale of the Executives, encouraging teamwork, and enabling the remaining employees to shoulder the additional responsibilities without any bitterness.
- 5. But the decision to hold 2nd membership verification of BSNL executives has come as a shock, leading to doubts whether the management is actually concerned about the revival of BSNL. After all, the Trade Union Act where there is provision only for a negotiated settlement does not apply to executives. Even the BSNL (REA) Rules do not provide for negotiation and agreement with the recognized association. While it is so, we do not understand as to what is the need to have recognized association (s). Unless the management keeps its ears and mind open, hears views from all sections of the executives without restriction and of course, takes a final decision of its own, considering all inputs, we are sorry to say that no positive change towards the revival of BSNL is possible.
- 6. We, therefore, request you to kindly review the matter passionately and drop the idea of holding 2^{nd} membership verification and thereby treat all registered associations equally, in the interests of BSNL and its early revival.

With kind regards,

(Rakesh Sethi)

Yours sincerely,

General Secretary

Copy to: 1. Shri Ansu Prakash, Secretary, DoT, New Delhi

> 2. Shri A.M. Gupta, General Manager (SR), BSNL CO New Delhi