

**ALL INDIA
BHARAT SANCHAR NIGAM LIMITED
EXECUTIVES' ASSOCIATION**



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No. AIBSNLEA/CHQ/Press/2019

Dated: 10.10.2019

To,

The Editor,
The Financial Express Newspaper
The Indian Express Online Media (Pvt) Ltd,
The Express Building, B1/ B, Sector 10,
NOIDA, UP- 201301, India.

Sub: Authenticity of the news published in your News Paper "Financial Express" dated 08.10.2019 regarding 'Closure of BSNL' - Reg

Sir,

We, All India Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited Executives' Association (AIBSNLEA) representing the Executives of BSNL is a leading and responsible Executives' Association of BSNL, are constrained to write with deep resentment and utter shock about the article written by Ms Kiran Rathee under the Caption "Closing bell? Finance Ministry wants BSNL, MTNL closed down" and published in your esteemed Newspaper Financial Express dated 08.10.2019 which drastically affected and tarnish the image of the State Owned BSNL amongst the Public, Esteemed Customers, Vendors as well as Employees of BSNL.

It is very surprising and shocking to note that a false propaganda against the BSNL is being spread in the Print and Social Media by some irresponsible journalist but it is not expected from the responsible Media Houses like "I.E. Online Media" whereas it is reliably learnt that Group of Ministers has given their recommendations for the Revival of BSNL and after the Group of Secretaries' Meeting held on 26.09.2019 at PMO even after raised some objections by the Finance Ministry, the discussions are going in positive direction with the concurrence of Finance Ministry on Revival of BSNL.

Further, being the responsible Association in BSNL, it is our bounden duty to express our utmost distress on the above said Article and we would like to know the authenticity of the above news. We are of the firm opinion that such fake news were leaked out by some Business Houses/ rivals with ulterior motive to grab the valued Customers of BSNL and to defame the image of the Govt. PSUs i.e. BSNL/MTNL. It is expected to be clarified whether such news has been published with whole sole responsibility and credibility by you or it is just to malign the great brand image of State owned BSNL, which is the most

S. SivaKumar

reliable and responsible Nationwide Telecom Service Provider formed on the Specific Agenda of the Govt. of India as per National Telecom Policy-1999 with the World Class Telecom Services in India including the NE Region/Rural/Hilly/Far-flung/Tribal areas at an affordable rates.

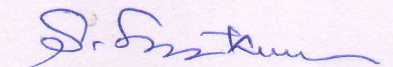
It is pertinent to mention here that as per the NITI Aayog and DPE Norms, BSNL is comes under the Higher Priority and Strategic Sector and providing Telecom Services for the Security of the Nation, performing Sovereign Functions and Market Imperfections as per the Specific agenda of the Govt. of India and providing services in Natural calamities and Social Obligations. But surprisingly your esteemed Newspaper without confirming the authenticity of the news has published the misleading reports in the Print/ Electronic Media against BSNL with vested interest to tarnish the image of the BSNL resulting in reduction of its Customer Base as well as its revenue and created the panic amongst the subscribers and the employees of BSNL.

Further it is not out of place to mention here that the financial condition of BSNL is not so bad as compared to other Private Telecom Service Providers. The debt of BSNL as on date is around Rs.20,000 crs, whereas, Vodafone Idea's debt is Rs.1.18 Lakh crores, Airtel's debt is Rs.1.08 Lakh crores and Reliance Jio's debt is Rs.2.20 Lakh crores.

In view of the foregoing, you may please be requested to desist from such false propaganda against BSNL in your esteemed News Media and you are hereby requested to provide either authenticity of this news or you have to publish your apology for the fake news reported in your Newspaper on 08.10.2019 , failing which we will be forced to take legal action against your News Media for defaming the State Owned BSNL and its employees image.

With kind regards,

Yours Sincerely



(S.Sivakumar)

General Secretary