



**ALL INDIA
BHARAT SANCHAR NIGAM LIMITED
EXECUTIVES' ASSOCIATION
Central Headquarters, New Delhi**

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No. AIBSNLEA/CHQ/MoC/2022

Dated: 24.03.2022

MEMORANDUM

To

Shri Ashwini Vaishnav ji,
Hon'ble Minister of Communications & IT
Govt. of India,
New Delhi -110001.

Subject: Request for immediate Launching of 4G by BSNL, Immediate Financial Support for Revival of BSNL, and immediate release of long pending outstanding dues to the tune of Rs.38,500 Cr from DoT to BSNL - reg.

Ref: No. AIBSNLEA/CHQ/MoC/2021 Dated: 28.07.2021

Hon'ble Sir,

All India Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited Executives' Association (AIBSNLEA) representing Executives in BSNL assure the fullest cooperation of the employees in your efforts to bring an early turn-around for BSNL. We, the BSNL Employees also take a pledge to provide uninterrupted Telecom Services at an affordable rate to the People of our great Nation, INDIA.

Hon'ble Sir, we would like to draw your kind attention towards the Revival of BSNL and constrained to bring to your kind notice that the State owned BSNL has still not come out of it's financial crisis, even after two year and five months of the announcement of the 'Revival Package', by the Government of India. Hon'ble sir our submission is:

1. The denial of level-playing-field for BSNL, in the matter of procurement of Equipments, vis-à-vis the Private Service Providers, has seriously hampered the Company's Revival process. The Government of India took the decision on 23.10.2019, to allot 4G Spectrum to BSNL and MTNL. However, it is a tragedy that even after 29 months of the Government's decision to allot 4G Spectrum to BSNL, the Company has not been able to launch it's 4G Services. It was informed by the Seniors Officers of DoT and the BSNL Management during the formal meetings with All Unions and Associations of BSNL during Oct & Nov' 2021 that the TCS is in the process of supplying 4G Equipments to BSNL. The CEO of TCS has assured to complete the POC (Proof of Concept) by 31st December, 2021. The POs (Purchase orders) will be placed by March-April, 2022. The commercial launching of 4G service by BSNL will take place in August/September, 2022. But it is reliably learnt that TCS is not able complete the POC within the stipulated time and the time is extended month by month and now the time has further been extended to TCS to complete the POC before 31.03.2022.

Due to COVID-19 Pandemic, 4G related Companies are facing dearth in receiving "IC Chips" from the Foreign Companies is a real concern for BSNL. It is reported that this will take around 52 weeks' time for receiving the Electronic Components to turn around the 4G Services in BSNL , in full swing. Hence we feared that the launching of 4G Services on Pan India basis will be further delayed for another 18 more months i.e up to August/Sep'2023 which will further weaken the already ailing State Owned BSNL and financial condition of BSNL will be deteriorated drastically. The real turn around & growth of BSNL for regaining it's pristine glory is under threat since BSNL Revenue growth is depending solely on Level playing field (4 G Services).

2. Hon'ble Sir, It is constrained to bring to your kind notice that the BSNL is facing severe financial crisis and not able to pay even Electricity Bills, Towers Rent, Vehicle Running Expenses, Fuel Expenses, Contractual Labour Bills, Payment to Vendor's bills, Telecom Infra Service Providers and Local Cable TV Operator's bills etc. Further, the Gratuity and SAB benefits to the Direct Recruittees of BSNL as well as Reimbursement of Medical Claims in respect of the BSNL retirees are delayed. The OPEX, CAPEX, Statutory and other Liabilities are also pending for more than Rs.11,000 Cr as on Feb'2022 and it is likely to increase in the months to come. BSNL borrowed around Rs.32,000 Cr from Banks. In addition to that, the Mobile Services of MTNL has already been taken over by BSNL. MTNL Exchanges and Transmission Equipments are getting connected to BSNL Network/CDR/NGN as per the instructions of the DoT. But till date no Capital Funds have been provided to BSNL for procuring Equipments for the up gradation of Transmission Net Work in MTNL for Delhi and Mumbai Areas.

3. When BSNL is facing a deep financial crisis, the non-clearance of various dues to BSNL from DoT amounting to Rs.38,500 crore, is further compounding the problems of the State Owned Company BSNL. This includes:

a. Reimbursement of deficit in Rural wire line operations for FY13-14 to 19-20	Rs.13,800 Cr.
b. Refund of Excess Pension Contribution to the tune of	Rs.1995 Cr.
c. Reimbursement for Leave Encashment amount (DoT Period) to the tune of	Rs.9000 Cr.
d. Interest on Wimax Spectrum Surrendered-	Rs.5850 Cr.
e. Surrender of CDMA Spectrum - etc.,	Rs.2472 Cr.

In this regard, it is further submitted that financial viability of BSNL operations in Rural & Remote areas has been a major challenge over the years. This aspect had attracted attention of the Government also at the time of Corporatization of DTO into BSNL in September 2000. The continued relevance of BSNL in India's Telecom Services Sector was given due consideration when the Cabinet deliberated and agreed that "BSNL would not be allowed to become non-viable as this would be a potent instrument in the hands of the Government for achieving its social objectives of achieving NTP '99 objectives." Over the years, BSNL has played its role by undertaking the socially desirable but financially non-remunerative projects with active support of the Government.

BSNL received last support for its Rural Wire line operations installed before the introduction of USO funded schemes, for a period upto July 2013 only. The Rural Wire line Network Infrastructure and Exchanges continue to be maintained by BSNL regularly, and the existence of

this Infrastructure has enabled Government in realizing the objectives of providing affordable access to Broadband services to Rural India, through Bharat Network. Whereas the deficit on account of maintenance of this infrastructure being borne by BSNL is not only draining its financial resources, the quantum of loss in its books of accounts is also impairing its capacity to raise fresh Capital from Banks and Financial institutions.

In view of the foregoing, we would, earnestly urge upon your kind Honor to kindly intervene in this matter and use the Good Offices of our Hon'ble Minister for the:

- a) Immediate importing of "IC CHIPS" from Foreign Companies for the launching of 4G Services in BSNL through the External Affairs Ministry and cause to issue necessary instructions to the Officers concerned in DoT and BSNL for the immediate launching of 4G Services by BSNL on Pan India basis so as to make the State Owned BSNL viable & a Profit making Concern once again.
- b) Immediate Financial Support from the Budget for Capex, Debts, other Vendor bills and Capex. for procuring Equipments for the up gradation of Transmission Net Work in MTNL for Delhi and Mumbai areas to the tune of Rs.1.60 Lakh Cr so as to revive ailing State Owned BSNL.
- c) And , take necessary steps to honour the commitment given by the Union Cabinet in the year 2000 at the time of formation of BSNL by the then NDA Government, to ensure Financial Viability for the Survival of the BSNL, in the larger interest of the Nation and it's People and cause to issue necessary instructions to the Officers concerned for the immediate release of above said long pending outstanding dues to the tune of Rs.38,500 from DoT to BSNL so as to disburse the Salary of BSNL Employees in time and payment of other pending bills by BSNL due to the present pandemic situation .

Hon'ble Sir, We assure to strengthen your hands, in all your endeavors to strengthen BSNL.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely



(Shaji V)

General Secretary

Copy for kind information and necessary action to:

1. Shri Devusinh Chauhan ji, Hon'ble MoSC, New Delhi -1110001
2. Shri. K. Rajaraman ji, Secretary (T) & Chairman DCC DoT, Govt. of India, New Delhi-110001
3. Shri M. Shanmugam ji, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, New Delhi -110001
4. Shri Dilip Padhye ji, Member (Finance), DCC, DoT, New Delhi- 110001
5. Shri. P.K. Purwar ji, CMD BSNL, New Delhi- 110001.
6. Ms Yojana Das ji, Director (Finance) BSNL Board, New Delhi - 110001
- 7 . Ms. Anita Johri, PGM (SR) BSNL Corporate Office, New Delhi- 110001