

JOINT FORUM OF NON-EXECUTIVE UNIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS OF BSNL

JF/2023/06

Date: 21.02.2023

To,

(1) Shri K. Rajaraman,
Secretary, Telecom,
Department of Telecommunications,
Ministry of Communications,
Sanchar Bhawan 20, Ashoka Road,
New Delhi-110 001.

2) Shri P.K. Purwar,
Chairman & Managing Director,
Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.,
Bharat Sanchar Bhawan,
H.C. Mathur Lane,
Janpath, New Delhi – 110001.

Respected sirs,

Sub: - **Merger of MTNL with BSNL - expressing the genuine apprehensions of the employees and demanding appropriate action from the government – req.**

Ref: - BSNLCO-PF/1/2022-PF-BSNLCO dated 23rd August, 2022.

We wish to bring the following to your kind notice, for favour of your information and necessary action.

The BSNL Corporate Office, vide letter cited under reference, has formed Committees on the merger of MTNL and BSNL and also on the merger of BBNL and BSNL. It is stated in that letter that, the Union Cabinet has taken decision on 27th July, 2022, approving the merger of MTNL and BBNL with BSNL. In this connection, we wish to draw your kind attention to the following.

The employees of BSNL are an important stakeholders of the Company. As such, the implications of the merger of MTNL and BBNL with BSNL, need to be discussed with the unions and associations. However, even 6 months after the decision was taken by the Union Cabinet, regarding the merger of MTNL and BBNL with BSNL, the unions and associations representing the employees are kept in complete darkness.

The employees of BSNL are having the following genuine apprehensions regarding the merger of MTNL with BSNL.

- (1) MTNL is a listed Company. Whereas, BSNL is 100% owned by the Government of India. Hence, the employees are having the apprehension that, the merger of MTNL and BSNL might be a backdoor method to start disinvestment in BSNL. Hence, we demand that, MTNL should be delisted before it's merger with BSNL.
- (2) From the media reports, we have come to know that MTNL is having a huge financial liability of nearly Rs.30,000 crore. BSNL's financial condition is already fragile. Under this circumstance, in the name of merger, if MTNL's financial liability is loaded on BSNL, that will be the end of the road for BSNL. Hence, we strongly demand that, the financial liability of Rs.30,000 crore should be taken over by the government, before MTNL is merged with BSNL.

(3) MTNL's networks, including mobile, landline, FTTH, etc., are in tatters, both in Delhi and in Mumbai. Huge amount of money is required to restore these networks. As everyone is aware, BSNL is presently not having the wherewithal to spend such a huge amount to restore the networks in MTNL. Hence, as a prelude to the merger, we demand that, the government should provide sufficient financial assistance to BSNL, to enable it to restore MTNL's networks.

We earnestly urge upon the respected Secretary, Telecom and the respected CMD BSNL to kindly grant a meeting to the Joint Forum of Non-Executive Unions and Associations of BSNL to discuss this issue.

Thanking you,

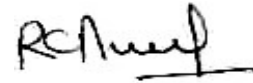
Yours sincerely,



(CHANDESHWAR SINGH)
GS, NFTE & Chairman, JF



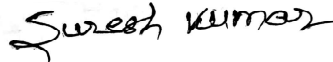
(P.ABHIMANYU)
GS, BSNLEU & Convenor, JF



(R.C. PANDEY)
GS, BTEU



(K. JAYA PRAKASH)
GS, NUBSNLW (FNTO)



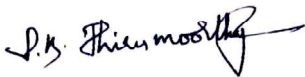
(SURESH KUMAR)
GS, SNATTA



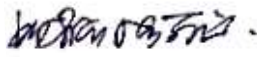
(SURESH KUMAR)
GS, BSNLMS



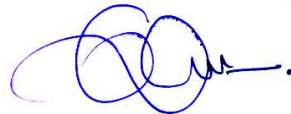
(S.P. SHARMA)
GS, BSNL WRU



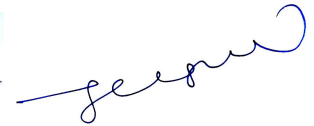
(P.K. THIRU MOORTHY BABU)
GS, BSNL DEU



(M. RAMASUNDRAM)
GS, BSNL EC



(ANIL KUMAR)
GS, BSNL ATM



(J. Vijaya Kumar)
GS, TEPU