

ALL UNIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS OF BSNL (AUAB)

Press statement

Date: 27.07.2022

Organise Lunch-hour Black badge wearing demonstrations on 28-07-2022.

The All Unions and Associations of BSNL (AUAB), the umbrella organisation of all the major unions and associations functioning in BSNL, have given call for organising Black-badge wearing demonstrations throughout the country on 28.07.2022. The programme is being organised, opposing the decision of the government to hand over 14,917 of BSNL's mobile towers to the private, under the National Monetisation Pipeline and also demanding the immediate launching of BSNL's 4G service.

Stop National Monetisation Pipeline.

In the budget for the year 2021-22, the government has categorically stated that, it would garner Rs.40,000 crore, by way of handing over the mobile towers and optic fibre (OFC) of BSNL and MTNL, to the private. In accordance with this, now, the government has decided to hand over 14,917 mobile towers of BSNL to the private. As per the National Monetisation Pipeline, more towers and optic fibre of BSNL will be handed over to the private, in the days to come. This decision of the government will certainly kill BSNL. If BSNL's towers and OFC are handed over to the private, thereafter, BSNL will have to pay money to the private, for using it's own towers and OFC. This will deliver a death blow to BSNL, which is already limping due to it's economic crisis, created by the anti-BSNL and pro-private policies of the government. Hence, the AUAB demands that, the government should immediately drop it's proposal to hand over BSNL's mobile towers and optic fibre to the private, under the National Monetisation Pipeline.

Remove the road-blocks created in BSNL's 4G launching.

At a time when the private companies are getting ready to launch their 5G service, launching of BSNL's 4G service is nowhere in sight. The TCS, which has been identified by the government to supply 4G equipments to BSNL, has not even completed it's Proof of Concept (PoC). The original deadline set for TCS to complete it's PoC was 30th November, 2021. This deadline has been extended many times. However, TCS has not been able to complete the PoC till today. It means, the TCS has not been able to prove that, it is having the technology to supply 4G equipments to BSNL. BSNL has already placed it's Purchase Order to procure 6,400 BTSs (Base Transceiver Stations). However, so far, TCS has not accepted the Purchase Order placed by BSNL.

It must be noted that, TCS has committed to supply 1 lakh 4G BTSs to BSNL. However, no one knows how and when TCS is going to accomplish this. Since, BSNL has not been able to launch it's 4G service, it has started losing it's customers. In May, 2022 alone, BSNL has lost 5.3 lakh customers. BSNL's Revival Package remains only on paper. The Company's financial condition is deteriorating fast due to the non-availability of BSNL's 4G service.

Hence, the AUAB has given call to organise Lunch-hour Black badge wearing demonstrations on 28.07.2022, opposing the handing over of BSNL's towers and OFC to the private and demanding meaningful action by the government and the Management to immediately start BSNL's 4G.



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