

JAC revives agitational programme

Situation warrants immediate action

- ***Lunch hour demonstrations on 14-06-2010***
- ***Massive dharnas at Corporate Office, Circle and SSA levels on 16-06-2010.***

Dear comrades,

The Joint Action Committee (JAC) met yesterday, the 09th March, 2010, under the chairmanship of com. Sathyanarayana (AIBSNLEA). The JAC meeting reviewed the progress on the assurances given by the Hon'ble Minister of Communications, Secretary, DoT and the CMD BSNL at the time of the indefinite strike, which started from 20th April, 2010, on issues concerning BSNL as well as the employees. The meeting expressed its utter disappointment over the lethargic manner in which the issues are being dealt with by the BSNL management and the DoT.

Procurement of equipments - Conspiracy continues.

It is a well known fact that only due to the road blocks created by vested interests in the supply of equipments to BSNL, the company is facing a down fall. This is one of the key issues on which the indefinite strike started in BSNL from 20th April, 2010. In the negotiation that ensued, it was categorically assured by the Hon'ble MOC that immediate steps would be taken, to procure equipments for 10 million GSM lines. Even this 10 million lines will be sufficient only for the current financial year. Again BSNL will be facing capacity crunch in the next financial year. To avoid this, immediate action has to be taken by the management. Now, we have come to know that BSNL has floated a tender to procure equipments only for 5.5 million lines. This is far below the requirement of BSNL and is violation of the assurance given by the Hon'ble MoC. The speed with which BSNL board cancelled the earlier tender to procure 93 million line equipments, is not being shown now for procuring equipments on a war-foot basis. Thus, the conspiracy to kill BSNL by blocking its equipment supply continues.

Moreover, only three companies, viz., Ericsson, Nokia Siemens and Alcatel Lucent are permitted to bid in BSNL's 5.5 million line tender. The CMD BSNL himself has told the media that Chinese companies like Hua Wei and ZTE, which supply equipments at much cheaper price, are banned from bidding in BSNL's tender, due to security reasons. Since only three companies are permitted to bid in this tender, the competition is going to be low and due to this the price of the equipments are naturally going to be very high. However, within days after BSNL finalized its tender, Govt. took a 'U' turn and announced that equipments can be procured from these Chinese companies also, subject to certain conditions. Accordingly the private companies can purchase equipments from Chinese companies. However, the decision of the BSNL to procure equipments from only the three western companies remains. Is this decision of the government taken to benefit certain Western Multi National companies at the cost of BSNL? How long are we going to allow these conspiracies to kill BSNL to go on?

Waive the spectrum charges

Consequent upon the recent tendering of the 3G spectrum, BSNL has hurriedly paid Rs.10,700 crores to the Govt. as spectrum charges. Again it has to pay around Rs.10,000 crores as Broadband wireless Access (BWA) charges. Thus, with these payments BSNL's entire cash reserve is going to be wiped out. It will be left with virtually no money for its expansion works. Considering the present financial condition of BSNL, Govt. should consider waiving of BSNL's spectrum charges. Otherwise, BSNL can be permitted to atleast make a deferred payment, say after a few years, since the 3G license is for a period of 20 years.

78.2% IDA merger

In the negotiation held on 20th April, 2010, the Hon'ble MoC categorically told the CMD BSNL that there should not be any discrimination on this issue. While the ITS officers are already given everything recommended by the 6th Pay Commission, BSNL management continues to deny 78.2% IDA merger, ordered by the DPE for the Executives and the Non Executives in BSNL. The discussions that we had with the CMD BSNL and the Secretary, DoT has not borne any fruits. We cannot allow the stalemate to continue.

Govt./PSU connections should be taken from BSNL.

It is the government order that government and PSU officers should fly by the Air India, since it is a government owned company. Similarly, BSNL is also a government owned company. Then why can't the central and state governments, as well as the PSUs owned by them take services (land line, broad band, mobile etc) only from BSNL? JAC feels that time has come to raise this demand.

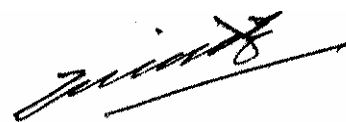
Other issues.

At the time of the indefinite strike, the JAC has raised a number of other issues also. Absorption of ITS officers, pension revision of those who retired prior to 01-01-2007 are very important issues. The assurances given by the Hon'ble MOC on these issues should be implemented in a time bound manner.

CHQ calls upon the Circle, District and Branch secretaries to take swift action to implement the JAC call with fullest mobilization. We cannot allow the lethargy of the BSNL management and the conspiracy of vested interests to kill BSNL.

**March ahead
Victory is our's**

Yours fraternally



**P. Abhimanyu
General Secretary**