FORUM OF MTNL UNIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS

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MS-54/forum/2023/86 Date: 30.11.2023

To

The Chairman DCC & Secretary (T),
Department of Telecommunications,
Sanchar Bhawan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi

The CMD, MTNL/BSNL BSNL Corporate Office, Janpath, New Delhi

Sub: Resolving Urgent Issues of MTNL Employees: A Call for Action to Protect the Future of MTNL's Workforce- Satyagraha at Sanchar Bhawan on 19th December,2023

Ref:1.MS-54/Forum/2023/74 Dated 19/05/2023 2.MTNL/CO/IRW/21(135)2017 Dated 05/07/2023 3.MS-54/Forum/2023/81 dated 05/07/2023

Respected Sir (s)

We, the Forum of MTNL Unions and Associations, are writing to express our grave concern regarding the unresolved issues of MTNL employees and the lack of a clear roadmap for their future amidst the ongoing process of BSNL's takeover of MTNL's telecom services.

The recent revival package vide OM F.No. 20-28/2022-PR dated 2nd August.2022 has outlined the transfer of MTNL's telecom services to BSNL leaving MTNL with only land and building assets. While the process of this handover has commenced the fate of MTNL's employees remains shrouded in uncertainty.

Despite our repeated appeals to MTNL management and DOT to address the concerns of MTNL employees and establish a clear roadmap for their future, no concrete action has been taken. Our earlier protest actions, including the Satyagraha to be held on August 3rd, 2023 in front of Sanchar Bhawan (DOT), were temporarily deferred following assurances from CMD, but no progress has been made since.

The prolonged uncertainty surrounding their future has caused immense anxiety and resentment among MTNL employees. We are compelled to resume our deferred protest actions, including a day long Satyagraha on December 19th, 2023, in front of Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi, if our concerns remain unaddressed.

Our demands are as follows:

1. **Establish a Clear Roadmap for MTNL Employees**: Immediately determine the future of MTNL employees as per our suggestion submitted vide letter No. MS-54/Forum/2023/73 dated 22.02.2023 (copy enclosed) before proceeding with the transfer of MTNL's services and the creation of BSNL's network in MTNL's service areas.

- 2. Implement the 3rd Pay Revision Commission (PRC) report: That MTNL Management had assured in the JNC meeting held on 28/03/2018 that the case for implementation of 3rd PRC/Wage Revision in MTNL will be taken up with DOT and issue shall be resolved shortly. Further it has been also assured that, MTNL Management will request to DoT that 'Affordability Clause' shall not be applied in case of MTNL being unique since it has a legacy in which erstwhile Govt. servants have taken absorption at the time of corporatization of Govt. Department. But till date status of this matter not yet informed by MTNL Management.
- 3. Revise Pension for DOT Absorbed Employees as per CAT order and Create a Pension Fund for Directly recruited & Counting of Casual Service for Pensionary benefits: Revise the pension of DOT-absorbed employees as per 7th CPC as per Hon'ble CAT order and establish a pension fund for MTNL-recruited employees to safeguard their financial security post-retirement and the employees who have worked as casual labourers in DoT and subsequently got transferred in MTNL/BSNL would be given the pensionary benefit for the casual service rendered by them as per the said agreement vide DoT letter No.32-14/2000-SR dated 06.09.2000 and Hon'ble CAT ruled in favour of the MTNL Mazdoor Sangh vide case No. TA-257/2009.
- 4. Extend CGHS Facility to All MTNL Employees: Provide the Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) facility to all MTNL employees, ensuring access to quality healthcare services as extended to Air India Employees.
- 5. To issue order for payment of 5% IDA neutralization with effect 1.1.2018 to the MTNL pensioner retired before 1.1.2018 at an earliest without further delay and any quarry because issue is already too much delay for more than 5 years.
- Address Pending HR Issues: Resolve other HR-related issues raised in our previous protest notices and JNC meeting held on 19.07.2023.
- 7. **Improvement of MTNL Services**: Substantial Budgetary provision was done in the past budget. Hence, we would like to know as to how the money has been spent? Whether new equipment for mobile services will be purchased & installed?

We urge the concerned authorities to take immediate action to address these pressing issues and alleviate the concerns of MTNL employees. Failure to act promptly will result in further industrial unrest and disruption of services.

We hope that our voice will be heard and that these urgent matters will be resolved at the earliest to ensure the well-being of MTNL employees and the smooth transition of MTNL's services to BSNL.

Enclosure: As above.

Yours Sincerely

(V.K. TOMAR)

(Chairman & Genl. Secy. (MEA)

(DHARM RAJ SINGH)

(Convener & Genl. Secy. (MTNL-MS)

Copy to:

- 1. Hon'ble Minister of Communication & IT
- 2. Hon'ble MOS
- 3. The Member (Services), DOT
- 4. The Member (Fin), DOT
- 5. The Director (HR), MTNL
- 6. The Director (Fin), MTNL
- 7. The Director (Tech), MTNL
- 8. The ED, Delhi/ED, Mumbai
- 9. The GS, ITEF
- 10. The GS (BMS).
- 11. The Commissioner of Police, Delhi Police HQ, New Delhi.