

ALL UNIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS OF BSNL (AUAB)

No: UA/2019/78

11.03.2019

To,

**Shri Manoj Sinha Ji,
Hon'ble Minister of State for Communications (I/C),
Sanchar Bhawan,
20, Asoka Road,
New Delhi – 110 001**

Sub: - **Requesting urgent support to BSNL, by facilitating BSNL to avail bank loan for the maintenance of networks-reg.**

Respected Sir,

Due to the predatory pricing of Reliance Jio, the entire Telecom sector is severely stressed. All the telecom operators are running in huge losses for the last two financial years. The losses of other operators are much higher, compared to BSNL. Furthermore, all the older operators are losing lakhs of customers, every month, except BSNL. Even in this challenging situation, BSNL is adding sizeable customers every month, due to the committed efforts of the employees and the management. This also proves that, BSNL's service is much better than the services of other operators. It is praiseworthy that, even without 4G technology, BSNL is able to effectively compete with the private operators, who are armed with 4G technology.

However, during the last few months, the interruptions in BSNL's services are increasing due to:

- (i) Non-payment of electricity bills on time, resulting in disconnections.**
- (ii) Non-payment to vendors and non-payment for AMC.**
- (iii) Non-payment of labour payment.**
- (iv) Non-payment of rental charges, vehicle charges, diesel payment, housekeeping etc etc.**

The quality of BSNL's networks has started deteriorating due to the delay in various payments. Vendors and labourers will not remain with BSNL for long, without getting their payments. For improving the maintenance of the networks, immediate government support is required for BSNL. BSNL is providing services to security agencies, banks, government institutions, hospitals, police authorities, railways and other public utility departments, in addition to the ordinary customers. The services to all these strategic and key sectors will be affected if the payments are delayed and the BSNL's networks are not maintained properly.

In the present market condition, the situation may not improve within a month or two. Similar financial crisis is being faced by other operators also. But, they are managing the situation by infusing huge amounts.

We reliably learn that, the BSNL Board has already approved a proposal for availing bank loans, for meeting the Company's urgent operational expenditures, and that the sanction of the government has been sought for the same. Unless the proposal of BSNL for taking bank loans is approved, to meet the expenditure towards OPEX, it will be very difficult for the Company to tide over the

financial crunch. The DoT, which is the 100% owner of BSNL, has to take prompt action and to facilitate BSNL to avail the bank loan. Revival of BSNL has to start from proper maintenance of the network and providing quality services to the customers.

Prolonged delay, on the part of DoT and the Govt, to grant permission, will be disastrous for BSNL as it will lead to deterioration of network quality and in turn, it will lead to customer dissatisfaction of surrender of connections. Once customers leave BSNL, it will be very difficult to regain them and in that case the revival of BSNL will become very difficult. Any delay on the part of the government in taking a positive decision in this regard will support only the private operators who are waiting for the disintegration of BSNL.

In view of the foregoing, the AUAB requests your goodself to kindly accord the needful sanction to the BSNL Board's proposal for availing Bank loans, for the urgent requirement of meeting it's OPEX.

Thanking you,
Yours sincerely,



Com. Chandeshwar Singh
Chairman, AUAB.



Com. P. Abhimanyu
Convenor, AUAB.

Copy to:

- (1) Ms. Aruna Sundararajan, Secretary, Telecom, Sanchar Bhawan, 20, Ashoka Road, New Delhi – 01
- (2) Ms. Anuradha Mitra, Member (Finance), Telecom Commission, Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi – 01
- (3) Shri Anshu Prakash, Additional Secretary, Telecom, Sanchar Bhawan, 20, Ashoka Road, New Delhi – 01
- (4) Shri Anupam Shrivastava, CMD BSNL, Bharat Sanchar Bhawan, Janpath, New Delhi – 01