

ALL INDIA BANK OFFICERS' CONFEDERATION



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To All Affiliates (Please Circulate)

THREE DAYS STRIKE CALL FROM MIDNIGHT OF 18.02.2019 BY ALL UNIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS OF BSNL (AUAB) - FRATERNAL SUPPORT

All Unions & Associations of BSNL (AUAB), umbrella Organisation of Trade Unions of BSNL has called for a nationwide three days strike from Midnight of 18th February, 2019 protesting against denial of various justified demands since long. It may be recalled that the joint platform had deferred their indefinite strike call from 3rd December, 2018 on similar issues after an assurance from the Hon'ble Minister of Communication to address those issues. But the government has not shown any interest afterwards and all those issues are pending yet. Interestingly, most of their demands are relate to the revival of BSNL. The demands narrated in their strike notice are:

1. Implementation of 3rd Pay Revision with 15% fitment.
2. Allotment of 4G spectrum to BSNL, as per the proposals submitted by the BSNL Management.
3. Implement assurance of the Hon'ble Minister for delinking pension revision from pay revision. Revise pension of BSNL retirees' w.e.f. 01.01.2017.
4. Payment of pension contribution by BSNL as per the Government rule.
5. Settlement of the left out issues of the 2nd Pay Revision Committee.
6. a) Approval for BSNLs Land Management Policy without any delay.
b) Expeditiously complete the mutation and the process of transferring of all assets to BSNL.
7. a) Ensure financial viability of BSNL, as per the decision taken by the Group of Ministers, at the time of formation of BSNL.
b) Issue letter of comfort for BSNLs proposals for taking bank loans.
c) Expeditiously fill up all vacant post of BSNL Board of Directors.
8. Scrap BSNLs outsourcing for the operation and maintenance of its mobile towers.

We know that BSNL is a strategic CPSE dedicated to provide telecom services for the nation. It is a vehicle to meet social obligation in the sphere of telecommunication and is not based on sole objective of profitability. In order to meet the social objectives, it extends services to non remunerative far flung and remote areas which other operators deliberately shuns or avoid under pretext. We are witness to the exemplary services provided by BSNL during the times natural calamities/ disasters across the nation. The premise of this organisation of national repute is largely meant to execute the policies evolved by the govt and not merely to rake in profits. When most of the telecom operators are losing customers in chunk and going into bankruptcy, BSNL is still in the fray, catering services to the citizens at affordable price and with minimum debts from financial institutions as compared to other operators.

Comrades, though it may appear that the issues pertain to BSNL personnel, it is not just that it affects only the BSNL. This is an indication of the bent of mind on the part of powers that be. These are the attacks on the very public sector fabric of Institutions. It is a methodical and pre-meditated actions and inactions to send the Public Sector Undertakings and Institutions to guillotine. Government is deliberately, consciously linking salary of personnel to profit. Similar approach is seen in our wage revision also. This is an anti people move on the part of the government to hog-tie the PSUs/PSBs, make them weak, demoralise and eventually hand over them to greedy private sector. This is an age -

old game – *to call the dog mad to kill it*. Comrades, this is a wild fire. If we do not compel them to desist from this kind of order, sooner or later entire PSUs/PSBs will be engulfed. The private sector, ever hungry for profits, will then control the entire economy at the cost of the interest of the country.

AIBOC has obviously been vociferous in protecting the public sector character of PSBs & PSUs and is spearheading a strong movement to bring Officers' organisations of Public Sector Undertakings, PSU Enterprises, Railways, BSNL, MTNL and other Government organisations under one umbrella through the formation of the All India Public Sector and Central Government Officers' Confederation (AIPCOC). AIBOC has also been in the forefront of waging a battle against the ill attempts to destabilise and dismantle the public sector character of PSBs and PSUs of the Country. In the light of this, it is the responsibility of all trade unions in the country that we should extend fraternal support to any movement, which opposes the attempts to attack PSUs/PSBs.

We, therefore, call upon all our Affiliates to extend fraternal support to the agitational program called by AUAB. Affiliates may please enjoin upon their members to:-

- Visit offices/places of demonstration, to encourage and extend moral support during lunch time or after office hours.
- Actively participate in Dharnas / Demonstrations/Protests organised by AUAB across the country during lunch time or after office hours.

Let us join the movement with all gusto and vigour. If we do not protect PSBs/PSUs, no one else will!!!

With vibrant greetings,

Comradely yours,



Soumya Datta
General Secretary

PSBs/PSUs are temples of modern India
