

ALL UNIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS OF BSNL (AUAB)

No: UA/2020/36

10.09.2021

To,

**Shri Ashwini Vaishnav ji,
Hon'ble Minister of Communications & IT,
Government of India,
Sanchar Bhawan, 20, Ashoka Road,
New Delhi - 110 001**

Respected Sir,

Sub: - **Requesting to grant a meeting to the AUAB for discussing serious issues related to the Revival of BSNL – req.**

Ref: - **AUAB letter no.UA/2020/29 dated 14.07.2021.**

We wish to draw the following to your kind notice for favour of seeking appropriate action.

The All Unions and Associations of BSNL (AUAB) is an umbrella organisation of all the major trade unions of the Non-Executives and Associations of the Executives of BSNL. The AUAB, vide it's letter cited under reference, has already sought a meeting with your kind self, to discuss the following issues.

It is already nearly two years, since the Revival Package for BSNL was announced by the Government. However, the condition of BSNL has gone from bad to worse, since then. The main reason for this is that, BSNL has not been able to launch it's 4G service till today. Whereas, the private operators have already launched their 4G service 6 years back and are on the way of launching their 5G service now. Hence, BSNL is unable to compete with the private operators, which is causing irreparable damage to the Company.

The denial of level playing field, is the main reason why BSNL is lagging behind in it's 4G launching. While the private operators are procuring their 4G equipments from global vendors, viz., Nokia, Ericsson and Samsung, BSNL has been mandated by the government to procure it's core 4G equipments only from domestic vendors. It is a well-known fact that, no Indian company is having proven 4G technology. In this connection, necessary remedial measures have to be taken on a war-foot basis, lest BSNL will become a sick company.

BSNL is having 49,300 4G compatible BTSs. All these BTSs can be upgraded into full-fledged 4G BTSs and thereby BSNL can roll out it's 4G service at the Pan-India level. In July, 2021, the Management Committee of BSNL proposed to upgrade 18,500 BTSs, at an estimated cost of Rs.550 crore. All these BTSs were supplied by Nokia. If these 18,500 BTSs are upgraded, BSNL can launch it's 4G service in the South and West Zones, within a few months. However, we learn that, in the meeting of the BSNL Board, the proposal for upgrading the 18,500 BTSs is being stalled by the Government nominees in the BSNL Board.

BSNL is passing through an acute financial crisis. At the same time, an amount of around Rs.39,000 crore remains to be paid by the DoT, to BSNL, towards settlement of various claims. The DoT has to consider settlement of these claims expeditiously, for the early Revival of BSNL.

In our earlier letter cited under reference, we have requested your kind self to grant a meeting to the AUAB, to discuss the issues related to BSNL's Revival. We once again request you to kindly spare some time for the representatives of the All Unions and Associations of BSNL (AUAB) to meet you and discuss these issues.

Thanking you,
Yours sincerely,



**P. Abhimanyu
Convenor, AUAB.
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**Chandeshwar Singh
Chairman, AUAB.
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