

Conciliation by the Chief Labour Commissioner on strike notice issued by Forum

The conciliation meeting called by the Chief Labour Commissioner was held today, 09th April 2015, at the Committee Room of the labour ministry in Shram Shakti Bhawan. Chief Labour Commissioner, Shri P.P.Mitra presided. Other senior labour officers were present. From the Forum of BSNL Unions/Associations, almost all the unions/associations were represented. Officers from the DOT and BSNL including Sr GM (SR), GM (Estt.), GM(Admn) and GM(Restructuring) were present.

After self introduction by all, the Forum leaders were asked to present the case. The 20 point demands of the strike notice were very effectively presented by the Forum leaders. Almost all the comrades participated in presenting the issues.

The issue of refund of Rs. 6,700 crore for surrendered spectrum, Rs.1,250 due in lieu of ADC already allotted, the urgent need to procure equipments, making it mandatory for Central /State governments/PSUs to take BSNL connections, financial assistance to BSNL as assured at the time of corporatisation through ADC, refund of licence charges, compensation for loss making connections, liberal support from USO Fund, no to merger of BSNL and MTNL, no formation of tower company, need to merge BBNL with BSNL, Pension Revision, Pension contribution on the basis of actual pay instead of maximum of the pay scale, transfer of assets to BSNL, 78.2% IDA fixation for pensioners, 30% superannuation benefits to BSNL recruited employees etc.etc. were presented by the union leaders in a very effective way.

The Director who spoke on behalf of DOT only stated that efforts are being made to pay the refund of the spectrum charges of Rs.6,700 crore and the Rs. 1,250 crore in lieu of ADC. The Management representatives could not give any satisfactory reply on the demands.

The issues of the casual & contract workers were explained by the leaders of BSNLCCWF, who were also invited to the meeting on the strike notice issued for 21-22 April by the BSNLCCWF.

The CLC requested the Forum leaders to defer the two days strike in view of the conciliation and the information given by the DOT and BSNL management representatives.

Since there has been no progress on the issues, the question of deferment does not arise.

Full preparations are to be made for the complete success of the strike. The next meeting of the Forum will be held at 03.00 PM on 20th April 2015.

SAVE BSNL, SAVE NATION!

V.A.N.Namboodiri

Convener, Forum

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