

JOINT FORUM OF BSNL & MTNL UNIONS/ASSOCIATIONS

D-7, GOLE MARKET, NEW DELHI - 110001

Press release

PARLIAMENT MARCH BY BSNL & MTNL EMPLOYEES ON 22 NOVEMBER 2012

Thousands of BSNL & MTNL employees will march to Parliament on 22nd November 2012 at 12:00 Hrs from BSNL Corporate Office, Janpath, New Delhi demanding immediate repatriation of non-optee Indian Telecom Service (ITS) officers who are working on deputation in BSNL & MTNL since its formation. The ITS officers numbering about 1,600, including both in BSNL & MTNL, were granted four chances to get absorbed in the PSUs, which they rejected and opted to continue in government service. While 4 lakh executives and non-executives got absorbed in BSNL & MTNL, the ITS, the top management officers were allowed to continue on deputation, getting both the benefit of government service and financial benefit of the PSUs. The continued deputation for 12 years is in complete violation of the existing rules, which stipulate deputation to a maximum of five years only, which period was over 7 years back.

The Hon'ble High Court, Delhi has directed BSNL/MTNL managements to repatriate the deputationist ITS officers to Department of Telecom (DOT) before 30th September 2012, but the same has not been implemented so far.

The illegal and continued deputation has adversely affected the BSNL/MTNL expansion, development and services seriously. Due promotions of those ITS officers and executives who are absorbed in the two PSUs have also been adversely affected. One of the reasons for the present decline of these PSUs is the non-settlement of this issue pending for long seven years.

The employees have organised several agitations, including one week Hunger Strike in all the Circles, Districts and Corporate office from 29th October 2012. Massive Marches /Rallies to Raj Bhavans and Collectorates have also been organised.

Since the issue is not settled so far, the Joint forum of BSNL & MTNL Unions/Associations, which is the co-ordinated body of the unions/associations of BSNL&MTNL, has decided to organise a March to Parliament on 22nd November 2012 to press the issue. A Memorandum signed by all the unions/associations will be presented to the Prime Minister. Members of Parliament and leaders of political parties will address the March.

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