United Forum of Unions & Associations of MTNL, Mumbai

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No. UFUA-MTNL-MBI/MO(CIT)/2012-13/

Date: 18th August, 2012.

To,

Shri Kapil Sibbalji, Hon'ble MO (C&IT), Union of India.

(Memorandum submitted during visit of MO (C&IT) at Mumbai on 18.8.2012)

Hon'ble Sir,

Sub: Request for intervention in the matter of pension by Govt. to MTNL employees

We are very grateful for sparing your valuable time from your busy schedule in Mumbai.

Your kindself is aware that the issue of pension by Govt. to the erstwhile DOT Employees absorbed in MTNL for the combined service (both in DOT & MTNL) as being paid to the BSNL pensioners is lingering for more than one decade and Govt. is not showing any inclination to resolve the issue as repeatedly assured. It is a fact that the employees both (MTNL & BSNL) are basically DOT recruited employees with the similar benefits of secured Govt. pension including family pension while they were in DOT. It is the Govt. policy and the act that has separated these employees and transferred them into two different organizations, i.e., MTNL and BSNL.

The MTNL Employees are aware that it will be difficult for MTNL management to continue to pay the pension to the MTNL pensioners from the MTNL resources as it is done for last 12 years which started as temporary arrangement as per the directives of the DOT. It is the responsibility of the Govt. and not of the MTNL. The MTNL employees were never told that the Govt. will absolve its responsibility of the payment of the MTNL pension. The assurances given by the Govt. can be seen from the extract from the relevant documents as mentioned below.

1) The assurance of MOC communicated by the Director (Estt.) to CMD, MTNL vide letter No. 40-29/2002-Pen (T) dated: 29/08/2002 which states

"The matter was taken up with Department of Personnel and Training and Ministry of Finance. This is to inform you that it has been agreed in principle that the payment of pensionary benefits including the family pension to the Government employees absorbed in MTNL and who have opted for Govt. Scheme of Pension shall be paid by the Govt. The exact modalities in this regard are being worked out by Department of Pension and Pensioner's Welfare".

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2) The assurance of MOC during 197th session of Rajya Sabha to Un-Starred Question No. 241 communicated by the Under Secretary (STP) vide No.38-6/2002-Pen (T) dated: 11/08/2003 which reads as

"The latest position is that it has been agreed in principal that there should not be any distinction in regard to payment of pensionary benefits between the two sets of erstwhile DOT employees, one seeking absorption in MTNL and other in BSNL. It has also been decided that employees of MTNL be given the same treatment as available to the employees of the BSNL. The exact modalities for implementing the above decision are being work out by Deptt. of Pension and PW".

Sir, the facts stated above express categorically that the pension to the MTNL pensioners shall be paid by the Govt. and it is learned that the efforts are on. The Govt. can not go back on the assurances given as it is a question of secured pension and family pension to be paid by the Govt. to the MTNL pensioners and the Govt. can not deny the same.

We once again request your kindself to met use of your good offices to intervene in the matter and resolve the issue for which we shall remain obliged for ever.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

Sd/

(Bhai Jagtrap) MLC, Maharashtra State

Sd/ sd/ sd/

(Kishor Kedar)
General Secretary
Workers Union of MTNL

(J. J. Mathias)
Circle Secretary
MTNL Executives' Assn.

(J. S. Yadav) Circle Secretary TEAM Mumbai