

UNITED FORUM OF MTNL UNIONS & ASSOCIATIONS

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Associates

Telecom Executive Association of MTNL (M: 9868136363)

#MTNL Staff Union (M:9868133959)

MTNL SC/ST Employees Welfare Association (M: 9868130032)

MTNL Workers Union (NFTE) (M: 9013131930)

Dr.Ambedkar MTNL Sc/ST/OBC Telecom Emp.Welfare Assn.(M: 9868549755)

MTNL Karamchari Vika Sanghathan (M: 9868001515)

MTNL Karamchari Union (M: 9013135620)

MTNL Employees Welfare Union (M: 9868115485)

MTNL Karamchari Ekta Union (M: 9013185353)

Retired Telecom Officers' Welfare Association (M: 9968721515)

MTNL(DOT) Ex.Employees Welfare Association (M: 9968075051)

Pensioners Forum of MTNL(M:9868256707)

MTNL Kamgar Congress (M: 9868137167)

MEMORANDUM

Ref.No. UFOM/2010-14

Date: 28/12/2014

To

Shri Narendra Modi ji,

Hon'ble Prime Minister,

Government of India,

South Block

I N D I A

**Subject :- MTNL employees are not responsible for present pathetic state of MTNL.
Government owns the key to the survival of MTNL.**

Hon'ble Sir,

At the very outset we beg apology for encroaching upon your valuable time for comparatively less (?) important matter for the Government. Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) and it's fast deteriorating conditions may seem to be "not so pressing issue" to the Government, but for the thousand of its employees who were originally recruited by the Government of India, this is an issue of bread and butter, this is an issue of healthcare and pension and family pension after retirement from the service. For the bureaucrats of Department of Telecommunication, it is very easy to say, "Forget MTNL, its now a lost case." For Hon'ble Minister, perhaps it is still easier to infer : "We shall see upto next February, if MTNL does not turn around, the responsibility of telephone and mobile service of VVIP areas of Delhi will be handed over to BSNL" to render MTNL more irrelevant.

But has the authority that be, ever tried to take the views of the employees of MTNL in this regard ? It is only the employees of MTNL (predominantly DOT recruits absorbed in MTNL

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after its formation) whose stake are very high in this matter. Because if MTNL fails (for whatever reason it may be), the loser will be employees. If MTNL is abandoned, if MTNL is sold to any private party, the employees will suffer heavily. They will lose the service, they will lose every thing that they aspired when applied for the Government service in DOT.

But this is not the case of the top management of MTNL who, like migratory birds come to MTNL for some period only to return to DOT or BSNL or BBNL after the period is over. They don't have any stake in MTNL. For most of these managements, it means very little whether MTNL remains viable operationally or not.

MTNL is left to the hands of those who, for all practical purposes, do not belong to MTNL.

It is widely believed by the employees that these elements, while in MTNL, fixed nexus with the MTNL's competitors in the field and made it sure that service provided by MTNL is gradually but steadily crippled to the advantage of its competitors. This game has been continuing since long.

It is not that DOT does not know this. Successive Ministers of the successive Governments are aware of this. Ask any employee of MTNL on the ground, he will tell you about this. But no action has been initiated to arrest this situation. Whenever new Government or new Minister has come, some superficial noise has been made for some time regarding viability or revivalability of MTNL service and then kept quiet after blaming "useless", inefficient" and "corrupt" employees.

In the beginning, when MTNL was still resourceful, DOT/Government used it as a milking cow and that too without bothering for its wellbeing. Now when MTNL is sick, its employees are blamed for every wrong thing that has happened. Why is GSM service is not up to the mark? The employees of MTNL are responsible. Why did crores of rupees investment in CDMA go waste? The employees are there to be blamed. Why is a break down in an important land line network not restored for years together thus handing over those affected customers to the private operators? The employees of MTNL are responsible for that. The employees are responsible for wasteful and bad investments of hundreds of crores of rupees. The employees are responsible for non availability of essential spares etc in the field to maintain services, to provide new telephone/broadband connections. The employees are responsible for a situation that forced MTNL to borrow a big amount of money at high interest rates to deposit to the coffer of the Government at 24 hours notice resulting into throwing MTNL to the deep den of financial sickness. MTNL does not have fund to spend for maintenance, to provide new connections, to upgrade technologies, to undertake innovative projects to acquire edge over the competitors. The batteries of telephone exchanges are too old to take the load. The replacements are not forthcoming. For all these, the employees are there to be blamed and the employees are to suffer.

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Thus employees are there for every thing that goes wrong with MTNL. Neither Government nor DOT nor senior level management including MTNL Board has anything to do in this respect. They are honest, clean and efficient onlooker to this peril. No responsibility fixed for them.

Precisely, this is the story line for the Government to clear the pave for selling MTNL to a private party.

It is important to note that the top level managers at the policy making/operational level are not to suffer the consequences. They are getting pay packets and perks from the ailing exchequer of MTNL. But their tenure in MTNL, is devoid of any responsibility and accountability towards improving the services. Whenever it suits, they will arrange shifting for themselves to another green pasture in form of DOT or BSNL or BBNL. They have got full benefits of last pay commission with full neutralization. They get full pension and pensionary benefits including hefty arrears after retirement. Their healthcare needs are fully covered under CGHS Scheme as Government pension holders.

On the contrary, MTNL employees have been deprived of full neutralization at 78.2%, not getting any financial relief in form of LTC, Housing loans etc, a large number of MTNL employees since retired are deprived of legitimate Government pensions adequately and those who have got Government pension, are denied arrears of pension revision as per last wage commission / pay commission. They are even denied adequate healthcare facility. The reasons for all these deprivation is, as excused by the management, the ailing financial condition of MTNL

But enough is enough. As a last ditch effort, MTNL employees would request to your goodself to intervene in the matter of MTNL, to save MTNL and to save the services that MTNL can provide to the customers of Delhi and Mumbai at cheaper rates. MTNL employees will support to and actively participate in any move that you decides to take. They will do so in the interest of the customers and also in the interest of their job security, health security and pension security. After all, the employees, unlike their top level management, are not migratory birds, they will have to stay and serve in MTNL. They identify their interest with the viability and survivability of

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MTNL. The MTNL employees desperately believe, MTNL will survive with full vigour, only if Government genuinely wants this. If Government thinks otherwise, MTNL will cease to exist. In that case, why to blame employees and why to deprive employees ?

Once again we plead for being excused for taking your valuable time.

Yours faithfully,

M. K. Bagchi
(M. K. BAGCHI)
Convener/UF

A. K. Kausik
(A. K. Kausik)
G.S. TEAM

Mange Ram Sharma
(MANGE RAM SHARMA)
President/UF

Shashi Sharma
DOT-MTNL-Ex
Employees Association

Radhey
Radhey Shyam
Gen Sec MTNL Workers
Union (NPTE)

Jaswant Singh
President
Pensioners Forum of MTNL

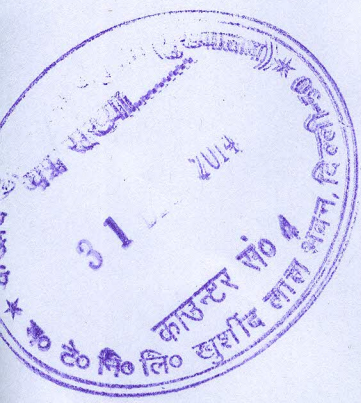
R. P. Sharma
C/S RTO w A
29/12

W. S. S. S. S.
G.S.
MTNL Sd/57 B. W. W.

Copy to :-

1. Shri Ravishankar Prasad, Hon'ble Minister (C & IT)
2. Shri Rakesh Garg, Secretary /D O T
3. Shri P.K. Purwar, C M D / MTNL
4. Executive Director / MTNL, Delhi & MTNL/Mumbai

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