JOINT ACTION COMMITTEE OF ASSOCIATIONS / UNIONS OF BSNL EXECUTIVES & NON-EXECUTIVES

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Press Release

04th January, 2012

LUNCH HOUR DEMONSTRATION BY BSNL WORKERS ON 10TH JANUARY 2012

- REFUND BWA SPECTRUM CHARGES TO BSNL
- CANCEL ILLEGAL ROAMING BY PRIVATE TELECOM OPERATORS

The Joint Action Committee (JAC) of BSNL Associations/Unions of Executives and Non-Executives has given a call to the BSNL workers to organise lunch hour demonstrations in front of offices/exchanges at SSA/Circle /corporate office levels on 10th January 2012 demanding refund of the BWA Spectrum charges to the BSNL and also for early cancellation of the illegal 3G roaming being provided by the private telecom companies in circles where they have not been allotted any spectrum.

BSNL was not allowed to participate in the auction for the BWA Spectrum but was compelled to pay Rs. 8313 crore towards BWA spectrum in all the circles in the country, while private players were allowed to participate in the auction, select choice of their circles and pay charges for that only. Further the BWA spectrum allotted to BSNL was unsuitable for higher technologies, while those allotted for private companies were of a higher quality. Hence the BSNL as also the JAC had demanded that the BWA Spectrum be allowed to be surrendered and that the amount paid to government be refunded. Although it is understood that the DOT has in principle agreed to the proposal, but so far no action seems to have been taken to refund the amount, which is very much needed by the company in its present critical situation.

The amount should be refunded without any delay.

With regard to the termination of the illegal 3G roaming being provided by the private companies like Bharti Airtel, Vodafone and Idea in those circles in which they have not got 3G spectrum, the DOT has taken the correct decision to terminate the same, but is questioned by the private companies in TDSAT. BSNL has been compelled to pay 3G Spectrum charges for all circles, even without being allowed to participate in the auction and was force to pay a huge amount of Rs.10,186 crore to DOT. How can this discrimination stand the judicial scrutiny? The decision of the DOT is correct and it should be implemented without delay.

On the above two issues, the BSNL workers, executives and Non-Executives will be organising lunch hour demonstrations on 10th January 2012 throughout the country. JAC demands the government and the DOT to concede the above demands, which are fully justified, without any further delay.

To. A. N. yamlie