



SANCHAR NIGAM EXECUTIVES' ASSOCIATION

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All Communications to
the General Secretary

K. Sebastin, General Secretary

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No: SNEA/CHQ/SEC DOT/2018-21/23

Dated 12.05.2021.

To

**Shri. Anshu Prakash,
Secretary (Telecom), DoT,
Sanchar Bhavan, New Delhi-110001.**

(REMINDER)

Sub: Request for categorizing BSNL employees under FRONTLINE WORKERS category and are given priority for getting the COVID-19 preventive vaccination:

Ref: No: SNEA/CHQ/SEC DOT/2018-21/22 Dated 29.01.2021.

Respected Sir,

Kindly refer the letter dated 29.01.2021 from this Association requesting to treat BSNL employees as Frontline Workers since Telecom services are being considered as essential service. BSNL employees are in the forefront in maintaining the services and more than 50% of the total wired connections across the country (FTTH, Broadband and Landline connections) are maintained by BSNL. Naturally wired connections are more faults prone comparing to mobile connections and employees frequent movement in the field and visit to customer premises become very much essential. Due to increased demand owing to work from home, online education, digital transactions etc, BSNL continued to provide uninterrupted services on regular basis and BSNL employees are to interacting with the public, customers, vendors etc as part of their job despite grave risks posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Even during last lock down period, BSNL employees worked with great dedication and commitment in maintaining the services.

While performing their duty, many BSNL employees including topmost Officers of BSNL and their relatives were affected by Covid-19 pandemic and about 100 BSNL employees succumbed to death so far. Many more are affected and they are under treatment/quarantine.

Govt providing Covid-19 vaccination for the priority groups like Health Workers, Police personal, Airport staff, IB, Electricity workers etc. Considering the nature of job, its sensitivity and Telecom Services being an essential service, it will be most appropriate to provide vaccination to all BSNL employees also on priority.

Unfortunately it has not happened so far even though we brought this important matter to the notice of the Govt and BSNL management about 3 months back.

It is really unfortunate to learn through media reports that, DoT has now written to Ministry of Health based on a letter from COAI to provide vaccination to Telecom employees treating them as Frontline workers. While appreciating the DoT initiative, it is really shocking to note that BSNL employees which represents more than 50% of the total employees in Telecom field and maintaining the wired line segment which involve maximum manpower movement could not find a place in the letter eventhough the BSNL employees and the management are repeatedly requesting for the same for months together.

Sir, it is once again requested to take up the matter with Ministry of Health for providing vaccination to BSNL employees on priority, treating them as Frontline workers.

With kind regards,



(P. Padmanabha Rao)
AGS SNEA
For K. Sebastin, GS SNEA

Copy to:

1. Smt Anita Praveen, Addl Secretary/DoT, Sanchar Bhavan, ND for n/a pl.
2. Shri P. K. Purwar, CMD/BSNL for information and n/a pl. Pl take up urgently with the Govt to provide vaccination to BSNL staff treating them as Frontline workers as hundreds are affected by the Covid 19 Pandemic.
3. Shri Arvind Vadnerkar, Director(HR), BSNL Board for information and n/a pl.