

All India Graduate Engineers & Telecom Officers Association

Central Headquarter, New Delhi

(The Recognised Representative Association of BSNL)

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GS/AIGETOA/2021/20

Dated 23.02.2022

To,

Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, Hon'ble Minister of Communications, Government of India, Sanchar Bhawan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi -110001

Subject: Roll back of acquisition orders of ALTTC, Ghaziabad issued by the Department of Telecom through Presidential Order dated 21/02/2022 -Reg.

Reference: 1. No. 8-9/2020-Asset Mgmt dated 21.02.2022 of Director(AM), DoT HQ, New Delhi

- 2. No. 1-20/2021-NTI. Admn dated 21.02.2022 of DDG(Admin) NTIPRIT, DoT, Gzbad
- 3. No. 3-32/2019-NTI. Admn dated 27.12.2021 of DDG(CB&T), DoT HQ, New Delhi

Respected Sir,

With respect to letters under reference, we wish to submit the following for your kind intervention on the matter of unilateral decision taken by Department of Telecom for taking away Advance Level Telecom Training Centre Campus (ALTTC) at Ghaziabad from BSNL, which is one of the most prized assets of the company. The Sudden takeover of ALTTC Campus has come as a huge shock to the employees of BSNL, who of late has started showing their belief in measures taken by the government for sustainability of the BSNL due to our firm efforts to educate them. But such uncalled decisions of the DoT take away the confidence from the employees with respect to the initiatives taken by government. Recently BSNL topped the charts in terms of new customer acquisition but this action from DoT has come as a huge demotivation for the employees of BSNL. We hereby submit the following points for your kind consideration and request your good self to prevail upon the DoT for the roll back of the orders under reference #1 and #2 to reinstall the confidence and motivation amongst the employees of BSNL.

1. Based on three office memorandums dated 30.9.2000, issued by the Government of India, Ministry of Communications, Department of Telecommunication Services, in the context of the policy decision to make over and transfer the business of providing Telecom Services in the country to the newly incorporated Corporation namely Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, under the Companies Act, 1956 (Limited by Shares), with its Registered and Corporate Office in New Delhi, BSNL was born into existence. Accordingly, the Government of India decided to transfer the business of providing Telecom Services in the country to the newly formed Company. The Department of Telecom Services (DTS) and Department of Telecom Operations(DTO) concerned with providing Telecom services in the country and maintaining the Telecom Network/Telecom Factories were separated and carved out of the Department of Telecommunications as a precursor to corporatization.

Regn. No.: HR/019/2018/02138

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- 2. The BSNL, though a limited Company incorporated under Companies Act, 1956, a distinct juristic person, has come into being pursuant to an agreement entered into with the Union of India, to acquire or to take over the management, control and operations and maintenance of communications network, manufacturing, research and development and other facilities being undertaken by the Department of Telecom Services and Department of Telecom Operations, Government of India with the assets and liabilities including the contractual liens and obligations on such terms and conditions as set out in the agreement.
- 3. It will be pertinent to highlight before your good self that any Executive Order (Presidential Order) should not defy the Policy framework as decided by Union Cabinet. In the aforesaid case, DoT in isolation has issued Presidential Order against Union Cabinet's mandate on land asset monetization of CPSEs. All the Assets & liability of the DTS has already been transferred to Company BSNL which is being run under Company Act & its irreversible process.
- 4. Now with the order under reference#1, the sudden take away of the ALTTC campus has come in strong contravention of the conditions laid in the aforesaid agreement. Many such instances have occurred in past also and instead of transferring the assets to BSNL, the same are being taken away from the company, making BSNL difficult to survive. For example, DOT had earlier taken over the BSNL's prime property at CTS, Compound, Netaji Nagar, New Delhi and a big land parcel at Ghitorny, New Delhi. There are many such instances where such BSNL's land and properties are being asked to be surrendered to DoT.
- 5. BSNL is running Asia's biggest training centre in ALTTC Campus which is catering the training needs of Central Govt. Institutions, Giant CPSEs, Asia Pacific Telecom, Nepal Telecom etc. ALTTC is one of the elite training centres of BSNL. Here, BSNL is running several National and International courses for a wide range of Clients/Interns/Students/trainees, which is a source of revenue for our company as well. So in long term, this arbitrary move of DOT will hamper the revenue, growth and image of the company.
- 6. The Government had brought a revival plan for BSNL in 2020, in which Land Monetization is also included. BSNL Management has set a target for every FY to earn revenue from land monetization. It will be further pertinent to mention that ALTTC of BSNL is listed in DIPAM for monetization of their land assets which is in process and its settlement would have gone long way in furthering the interest of the Company. All of a sudden, DOT has taken over the ALTTC campus which is a state of art and centre of Excellency training centre of BSNL without compensation and without considering the needs/requirements of BSNL has come as a huge setback for all of us.
- 7. Principle of Natural Justice has also been denied in issuing this PO as the Committee formed to take decision on this issue has not a single member from BSNL side. Already, DOT is running NTIPRIT from the BSNL building and paying regular maintenance charges to BSNL for the same which in itself is revenue to BSNL. The existing infrastructure including classrooms, various labs and test equipment has been maintained for long by BSNL and all of a sudden this move shall neither be in the interest of the company nor its employees. It will be worth to mention that

volume of training imparted by BSNL is many times more than that of by NTIPRIT unit of DoT. Already NTIPRIT has taken 200 acres of land in Ghitorny New Delhi, which was earlier in possession of BSNL, still showing erroneous approach to takeover BSNL's worthy Assets.

8. Even there port of the committee constituted by DoT emphasizes at point 9 that each training institute must maintain its distinct character; and ALTTC is ab-initio very unique and distinct in terms of its training customers type and number, the bouquet of training offered, R&D activities for the BSNL field Issues, In-house talent DEVELOPMENT, Pre and post-induction training for various recruitments, Courses of international repute for ITU, APT, ASEAN, CTO etc.

ALTTC is Unique in the sense that it is the only ITU Center of excellence in three main ever evolving technologies CYBER SECURITY, IoT and BROADBAND technologies for the whole of South and South-East Asia. The ITU Centers of Excellence available in the vicinity are in Tehran (IRAN) and Beijing (China).

For more than 25years, ALTTC made a brand name for itself and the Nation in International telecom Fraternity. After its establishment, ALTTC is having various state of ART labs for various crucial, Latest and ever-evolving technologies like IoT, Cyber Security, Fixed and Wireless Broadband, Transmission technologies etc having huge financial resources involved in establishment and updating.

Losing Center of Excellence Status will blunt the Image of ALTTC before the International Telecommunication fraternity. It will be a huge loss to the Brand Image of BSNL which is a prized asset of our nation.

9. NTIPRIT cannot run BSNL courses as they don't have sufficient operational experience and expertise of BSNL field units. BSNL was and shall be running a plethora of courses of International repute. BSNL is even conducting courses for neighboring countries i.e: NEPAL, BHUTAN, for PSUs and Govt Organizations i.e. GAIL, ONGC, CBI, SBI, BEL, Air force, BSF, Cabinet Secretariat, NDRF, NTRO, Academic Universities i.e. Jammu University, AKTU, GB Pant University, Etc.

Also, BSNL training courses run for the whole year and require continuous and continual pursuance, specialization acquired over a period spent in field units specially to understand specialized training requirements. As NTIPRIT don't have such vast exposure to heterogeneous technologies available, it will not be able to cater to BSNL training needs.

10. In the Covid pandemic period BSNL was running numerous online courses on cutting edge, latest and growing technologies like IoT, Cyber Security, Block Chain, industrial revolution 4.0, SDN, NFV, Advanced BB network, MPLS, MPLS-TP, NGN, Society 4.0, Software 2.0, Advance modern IoT, Swarm Network, 5G and respective use cases, For its employees, engineering students, external clients, Other CPSE's including programs under Skill India, Bharat Air Fiber, FTTH to support, boost and realize the Prime Minister's vision of Digital INDIA initiative. Even BSNL had conducted reputed international online courses for ITU, APT, and ASIAN during that period.

An abridged summary of training courses conducted by ALTTC circle in Covid-19 pandemic period as follows:

Period of Courses conducted	Total Nos of Course Conducted
FY-2020-2021	478
FY 2021-2022	320 (Till now)

- 11. Due to the financial constraints of BSNL, ALTTC is carrying out only the bare minimum and essential maintenance activities of the campus and hence this cannot be used as a reason for taking away the asset from BSNL.BSNL is on recovery path under your esteemed leadership and in future shall take regular maintenance activities also. In Covid period, training infrastructure was mainly used for online training purposes, therefore, minimum maintenance was done to save financial resources for better utilization. The heavily vegetated appearance of ALTTC is because this vegetation is being used as a buffer zone from the vicinity for the satellite installations and Earth Station. Due to dense Vegetation, the AQI of this campus is far better in comparison to the vicinity, especially important in wake of Covid-19.
- 12. Sport/Support facilities weren't being optimally used due to the absence of trainees due to Covid pandemic. Whereas to maintain the Sports/Support facility, residents and children were encouraged to participate actively in various sports events and cultural activities organized in the same mentioned period. As per acceptance made by the committee itself at point no: 10, Structural Integrity is prima-facia still intact. Hence contentions made at point no: 4(b) of the committee report are contrary, as essential maintenance is carried on periodically whereas exterior maintenance is delayed because of paucity of financial resources.
- 13. Revision of Salary of employees of BSNL is linked with the profitability of Company. As 3rd PRC to its employees has been denied for the same reason. Therefore, taking away of BSNL's valuable property at this juncture may further deteriorate Company & its employee's prospect.

In view of all the points mentioned above, your good self is requested to kindly prevail upon the DoT decision on this matter and direct them to arrange for the rollback of this shocking and demotivating order for BSNL. The DoT and BSNL may be asked to deliberate on the matter and take necessary corrective actions. We have a firm faith and belief on your good self and are very sure that you will not allow BSNL& its employees to suffer on account of such uncalled-for orders.

With Warm Regards

Sd/--

[MD. WASI AHMAD]
General Secretary

Copy to:

- 1. The Hon'ble Secretary DoT, Dept of Telecommunication for kind information Please.
- 2. The CMD, BSNL New Delhi with a request to take the matter at appropriate level in Dot please.
- 3. The Director (HR) BSNL Board, Corporate Office, New Delhi for kind information and NA Pl.
- 4. The CGMT ALTTC, Ghaziabad for kind information and necessary action Pl.