

One day strike (or) One more futile exercise ?

After NFTE-BSNL had discussion with Director (HRD) on 27th Sep 2011 in New Delhi, the leaders of Joint action committee (JAC) met the president, General secretary and Dy General secretary of NFTE-BSNL at the corporate office compound. At the meeting comrades Namboodri, Jogi and other leaders of JAC appealed to the leadership of NFTE-BSNL to join the JAC and also participate in the proposed one day strike on 10/10/2011. The leadership of NFTE-BSNL expressed its inability to join the JAC since the reasons for going out of JAC are still remain and unaddressed.

NFTE-BSNL also pointed out the decision of the National Executive Committee meeting of Bhopal not to have any truck with JAC due to the disruptive activities of BSNLEU which organized split in both NFTE-BSNL and FNTO on the eve of 5th membership verification. However, NFTE-BSNL leadership agreed to consider joining the united struggle against VRS after discussing the same at the next National Executive Committee meeting at (Coimbatore) to be held from 15th to 17th October 2011. There after the leadership of the JAC decided to postpone the one day strike on 10/10/2011. But we are surprised to note that both JAC and BSNLEU leaders attribute different reason for the postponement. At no point of time NFTE-BSNL demand postponement of 10/10/2011 strike. How ever we understand the feelings of the JAC leadership that without the active participation of NFTE-BSNL and FNTO unions no strike will be successful in BSNL. Due to this reason only the JAC postponed the strike on 10/10/2011.

At coimbatore National Executive Committee meeting there was big opposition from majority of circle secretaries for joining the JAC due to victimization of NFTE-BSNL members in all most all circles by the BSNLEU. However the leadership of NFTE-BSNL convinced them explaining the dangers of VRS and other attacks on employees and decided unanimously to join the united strike action against VRS, disinvestment etc.

NFTE-BSNL sincerely feels that one day strike against these policies will not serve any purpose but can only be a protest action. That is why again and again NFTE-BSNL appealed to the JAC to begin an indefinite strike instead of one day token strike as a ritual. NFTE-BSNL also feels that the date for the said indefinite strike may be fixed when the parliament is in session so that number of MP's may intervene on behalf of us inside the parliament. This will have more impact on both the management and govt.

Now the corporate office is very much busy with the absorption of ITS officers and we hope the one day strike at this juncture will be one more futile exercise. We once again appeal to the JAC to give serious thoughts and due respect to the views of NFTE-BSNL without standing on false prestige to galvanize one and all for a very successful united strike against the policies of management/govt.