To

Dr Manmohan Singh,
Prime Minister of India,
South Block,
New Delhi-110 001.

Sub: Move to adopt different and discriminatory approach in regard to absorption of the Employees of Department of Telecommunications in Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited – Appeal for kind intervention.

Hon'ble Sir,

We are constrained to seek your kind and immediate intervention to stop Department of Telecommunications from adopting a gross discriminatory approach regarding absorption of its Employees in Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited.

2. The present move is to obtain approval of Cabinet for absorption of its Group A Officers from a prospective date i.e. after implementation of sixth Central Pay Commission to give them an added advantage over the other Employees in Group B, C and D who got absorbed retrospectively with effect from 1st October 2000 i.e. the day on which BSNL was formed. In fact the Group A Officers in different organised Services in the Department of Telecommunications were also offered absorption with effect from the same day i.e. 1.10.2000. Barring some Group A Officers of Indian Telecommunication Service, all other Officers of different Group A Services accepted absorption and the Presidential Orders for their absorption have also been issued. Now the Department of Telecommunications, under pressure from this section of ITS Group A Officers, is extending many facilities which were not given to others. The most significant concession which has been proposed is, to allow them absorption from a date after implementation of sixth Central Pay Commission recommendation which will ensure them much more financial and other benefits. We understand that a Cabinet Memo is now ready to be sent for approval.

3. Sir, the above move to allow a section of the Group A Officers absorption from a prospective date to get added benefits on their absorption in BSNL is not only discriminatory towards the other Employees who have already got absorbed w.e.f 1.10.2000, and in violation of the provisions in Article 14 and 16 of the Constitution of India but also will give rise to many complications and legal problems. This is certainly an injustice to those who cooperated with the Government.
4. We would, therefore, earnestly appeal to you to kindly advise Department of Telecommunications to abandon the move. Alternatively, all Employees including the Group A Officers who took absorption earlier should get seniority over the later optees and they should also be given the benefit to take absorption with prospective date i.e. after implementation of sixth Central Pay Commission recommendations.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(V.P.Arya)
General Secretary

Copy to:

1. Dr A Raja,  
   Minister of Communications & IT, GOI.

2. Shri P Chidambaram,  
   Minister of Finance, GOI.

3. Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev,  
   Minister of Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises, GOI.

4. Shri Prithviraj Chavan,  
   Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, GOI.

5. Shri K M Chandrasekhar,  
   Cabinet Secretary, GOI.

6. Shri Siddhartha Behura,  
   Secretary, DoT.