

## **Consensus or Surrender?**

The recognized union informed the employees that on 04/12/2009 it reached “consensus” With the management on 1.91 times of pay hike. We all know that the management was offering 1.91 times of pay hike from the beginning as in the case of executives but BSNLEU was demanding the wage increase of 3.5 times in the lowest pay scale(Rs 14000) which will be available to RM cadre officials.(Gr.D). Despite several rounds of negotiations and several months of talks the recognized union could not compel the management to agree for 3.5 times of pay hike .However suddenly Com Namboodri downsized his demand from 3.5 times to “ atleast 2 times”. Even after this the management stood like a rock and maintained its original stand that only 1.91 times of pay hike will be offered to the employees. BSNLEU did not try to unify all unions to oppose this adamant attitude of the management but meekly surrendered to the management on 04/12/2009 and accepted the offer of 1.91 times pay hike. **The joke of the year is that Com. Namboodri described his total surrender as “ consensus reached” with the management.**

We all know consensus means both the parties must agree to a position climbing down from their original positions. In this particular case the management did not change even a bit. But the recognized union which climbed down from its demand of 3.5 times pay hike to 1.91 times. In this background one can describe this only as surrender. In his anxiety to cheat our employees Com. Namboodri sugar coated his surrender as consensus. It is pity that the recognized union has failed event to demand 2.25 pay hike which was given to the central govt employees by the 6<sup>th</sup> pay commission. **Surrender and betrayal thy name is BSNLEU?.**

C.K.MATHIVANAN  
SECRETARY  
NFTE-BSNL  
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