

Wage Parity With Central Govt Employees?

The next wage revision negotiations is expected to be on 04/12/2009. The management has already offered only 1.91 times of wage hike to decide the minimum of the new pay scale for Gr.D employees. This means our regular mazdoors will get only Rs 7640 as new pay scale as on 01/01/2007 after 68.8% IDA merger and 30% fitment. This is very low and not acceptable to us. The pay scales now discussed will be effective for ten long years and hence we should not agree for meagre amount as lowest pay scales for our employees. When NFTE-BSNL submitted its proposal for wage revision few years ago it demanded Rs 16000 in place of existing Rs 4000 scale. We demanded 4 times increase in pay only because increase in the cost of living and prices of all essential commodities rose more than 8 times during this period. However BSNLEU submitted a low quotation and demanded Rs 14000 only for a regular mazdoor. But now the management is audacious and prepared to pay only Rs 7640 for regular mazdoors.

It is worth to mention here that the central govt employees were given 2.25 times wage increase by the 6th pay commission over what they were given by the 5th central pay commission. As per this formula our Gr.D officials must be given at least Rs 9000 as new pay scales by the BSNL Management. However the management is reluctant to give more than 1.91 times. However Com Namboodri requested the management for atleast 2 times wage increase and may accept the raw deal to our employees. But we will not settle down for less than Rs 9000 scale for our regular mazdoors. We are also insisting that age old parity between post man and line man cadre should not be disturbed now.

In 1984 the unions of central govt employees unitedly submitted memorandum to the 4th pay commission for wage parity with public sector. But in October 2000 we were made employees of public sector company namely BSNL. But due to the incapacity of BSNLEU we are in a pathetic situation now to demand wage parity with central govt employees.

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DATAED: 02/12/2009