



BSNL workers in Kolkata defy Left's strike diktat, gate-crash to join work:

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About a hundred employees of CPM-backed BSNL union gate-crashed the main building of the Calcutta Telephones on Wednesday to join duty, ignoring the call of a three-day strike. The entrance had been blocked by picketers.

With the fast changing political climate in the state, workers and employees have started ignoring Left diktats for forcible strike. It was a bitter experience for the Left trade union leaders, who so far enjoyed an unchallenged authority in the telecommunication sector in Bengal.

“I was present at the picketing. But later decided to join duty despite being an activist of the BSNL employees union,” said Shankar Kundu, an active member of CPM-backed BSNL union.

Anita Dutta and Sunita Balmiki - who led the gate-crash - were happy to join duties. They said in the strike held on September 27, they could not enter the office due to resistance by union leaders.