

## **Soon recognition will be extended to NFTE-BSNL:**

On 29/03/2011 two meetings were held in New Delhi which raises hope for getting recognition to NFTE-BSNL soon. First meeting was with Hon'ble Kabil sibal, Union Minister for communications & IT. On the same day, the 2nd meeting of all central trade unions was convened by the labour ministry.

### **Meeting with Hon'ble Kabil sibal:**

On 29/03/2011 a meeting in New Delhi with the minister was arranged by AITUC, our fraternal organization. Com. Guruadass dasgupta, GS, AITUC, Com. D.L. Sachdev and Com.G.L.Dhar took part in this meeting representing AITUC. Comrades Chandear Singh and Islam Ahamed represented NFTE-BSNL.

The issue of extending recognition to NFTE-BSNL was discussed in depth with the minister. Since no union had secured more than 51% support in the 5th Membership verification in BSNL, the management should have recognized both BSNLEU & NFTE-BSNL as per the Madras High Court judgment in the case of trade union recognitions in the Neyveli Lignite Corporation. But the management had recognized a minority union which did not secure even 51 % support among the employees. BSNL management thus acted discriminately due to the outdated code of discipline evolved in 1958. NFTE-BSNL appealed to the minister to recognize NFTE-BSNL also in the given situation wherein no single union had secured majority support in the membership verification held on 01/02/2011 through secret ballot. The minister heard our view points and conveyed to us that our demand for recognition to NFTE-BSNL is reasonable and legal. He also assured us early action on our demand.

### **Meeting convened by Labour ministry:**

The labour ministry convened a meeting of all central trade unions in New Delhi on 29/03/2011 mainly to discuss about the trade union recognition in public sector enterprises. This meeting was attended by all central trade unions. AITUC was represented by Com.D.L.Sachdev & CITU was represented by its president A.K. Padmanabhan. In this consensus was arrived among the central trade unions on the following points.

- 1.The age old code of discipline needs to be reviewed and modified to suit the present day conditions of the Industry.
- 2.Multiple trade unions may be recognized in big establishments.
- 3.Grant of proportionate representation in negotiating council for all unions as per their vote share.

Although CITU agreed for the modification of code of discipline and recognition for more than one union in public sector enterprises, its friendly union in BSNL ( BSNLEU) is adamantly opposing any change in the code of discipline only for selfish and narrow considerations. However we hope better sense will prevail on both the management and the BSNLEU sooner or later.

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