



BSNL EMPLOYEES UNION

(Regd. under Indian Trade Union Act 1926. Regn. No. 4896)

KERALA CIRCLE

P&T House, Thiruvananthapuram 695001.

No: EU/S-01/staff/2018-20/49

09-11-2019

To

Sri. Dr.P.T.Mathew
CGMT BSNL,
Kerala Circle, Trivandrum.

Sir,

Sub: Suicide of Contract Labourer:Request for initiation of Urgent Measures to
Resolve the Issues.

Another life has been lost as a result of the shoddy and insensitive attitude of the BSNL management towards the low-paid contract labourers. One casual labourer committed suicide on 07-11-2019 inside the MDF room in Nilambur Telephone Exchange. The worker Sri.Ramakrishnan had been working as a sweeper (contract worker) for the past 30 years from the period of the erstwhile DOT. He had not been getting his wages for the last 9 months and was finding it difficult to pull through his life. Earlier he had got work for 8 hours and based on the order issued on 30-09-2019 it was reduced to 3 hours and then to one-and-a-half hours. Naturally his income fell to a paltry sum that was in no way sufficient to meet the basic needs of a family consisting of his wife, a young daughter and a son. The incident drew spontaneous and angry protests from all sections of society. Workers of other trade unions did not allow the authorities to remove the body for postmortem examination until the senior officers of the SSA arrived and immediate relief and adequate compensation were assured to the bereaved family.

Sir, the general mindset of the workers who have been denied wages for 9 months is similar to that of the worker who decided to take his own life. So I humbly request you to take immediate steps to ensure adequate compensation to the family of the deceased and exert optimum pressure on the Corporate Office authorities to release funds to pay off the back wages of remaining contract labourers so that no other worker will in future be compelled to take such extreme steps as done by the deceased labourer.

Thanking you

Yours faithfully

C.Santhoshkumar
Circle Secretary