

No.SNEA/Kerala/2021/5

dated 03rd May 2021

To The CGMT BSNL, Kerala Circle

Respected Sir,

Sub: Request for granting VPN facility over Broadband / FTTH Internet Service to BSNL employees – Reg.

As you are aware, Our Country, Our State is passing through a catastrophic situation. We are witnessing an alarming surge in Covid-19 cases and directions and guidelines being received from Government agencies for curbing the spread of deadly virus. Based on these directions, BSNL already issued guidelines for permitting employees to attend office on alternate days on rotation basis. It is further advised that employees, who do not attend office on a particular day as per the roster system, should work from home and are required to make themselves available on telephone or other electronic means of communication at all times during office hours.

In order to make the employees effectively work from home with electronic means, the VPN facility is highly essential. While introducing an online attendance system in the circle, the VPN facility granted to many officials was withdrawn, reasoning to prevent marking attendance from home. The denial decision of VPN facility to prevent an assumed misuse (even by a miniscule minority) made the vast majority of committed workforce in trouble. It is hectic to work with BSNL's aged old software tools during busy hours especially in office time. Employees themselves solve this issue by adopting Work from Home after office hours utilizing VPN facility.

At present BSNL permits Work from Home option to a group of employees succeeding the instructions from the Government. As Covid related restrictions to curtail the spread of disease are increasing day by day, the Work from Home Option might have been encouraged and extended. Taking into account the seriousness of situation it is requested to grant VPN facility to officials on request to their:

- (1) Broadband Connection (Or)
- (2) FTTH Connection (Other than Service Connections)

Many of the employees are resorting to FTTH Connections on their personal capacity ignoring the official service broadband connections because of its inherent limitations and QoS. In this regard, It is once again requested to grant the VPN facility on FTTH Connections availed by the employees on their personal capacity.

Thanking You,

Sincerely Yours

Jithesh K P Circle Secretary SNEA Kerala Circle