Broadband Cell, Corporate Office 211, Bharat Sanchar Bhavan, Janpath

New Delhi: 110001

Ph: 23734094 Fax: 23734284





No: 64-17/09-Broadband **Dt**: 31-03-09

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The Dy General Manager (BB & BD).

Punjab Telecom Circle.

Sub: Clarification regarding USOF for Rural Broadband.

Ref: Your Letter No. BBO-8/2009-BB dated 27-03-2009

The following clarifications are issued to the queries mentioned in the letter cited above.

Q 1. Whether SSAs can make the agreement with local computer vendor and pass the subsidy of computer after receipt under USOF to the vendor?

Ans. The agreement may be executed at the circle level only with the local computer vendors.

Q 2. Whether USOF plan can be provided to a rural customer through DSLAMs existing in urban area?

Ans. No please. The USOF plan is applicable only to broadband connections provided through DSLAMs located in rural exchanges.

Q 3. Subsidy can be claimed for first 31 customers of Rural DSLAMs. In case more than one DSLAM is installed in same rural exchange, how the subsidy can be regularized in such cases?

Ans. As per the agreement, subsidy can be claimed for net 31 broadband connections per DSLAM given from 20-01-2009 irrespective of the number of DSLAMs installed in the same rural exchange but as per the list of Rural DSLAMs approved and listed by USOF (A).

Q 4. At present in circle office the subsidy claims in respect of VPT, Rural DELs are being processed on the basis of data received from SSAs by operation cell of circle office. Please intimate/clarify in respect to the present Rural Broadband claims.

Ans. The present arrangement in circles for claiming subsidy in respect of VPT and Rural DELs shall continue for claiming subsidy for Rural BB connections under USOF agreement.

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(R. Saji Kumar)

Dy. General Manager (BNP)

Copy to:

- 1. All Heads of Telecom circles/Telecom Districts.
- 2. Dir(Plg & NS) for kind information pl.