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भारत संचार निगम लिमिटेड
(भारत सरकार का उपक्रम)
BHARAT SANCHAR NIGAM LIMITED
(A Govt. of India Enterprise)

IndiaBroadband²⁰⁰⁷
Linking India

No: 64-17/09-Broadband

Dt: 05-03-09

To
The Dy.General Manager(Broadband)
Kerala Circle..

Sub: Broadband connectivity to Rural /Remote Exchanges under USOF agreement-
regarding

Ref: [1] BSNL CO No 64-17/09- broadband dated 02-02-2009
[2] DGM(Comml-II) CO No.111-4/09- Comml dated 3-02-2009
[3] DGM(BS) CO No 64-23/09- BB/ Part dated 23-02-2009
[4] Lr.No:BB/11-118/08-09/13 dt at Trivandrum , the 25-2-09

With reference to the above cited letter at Ref [4], the required clarifications are given below pl.

Q. 1. Vide reference (1) above 512 Kbps BB connection is to be provided at two new rural Broadband plans at Rs. 99 and Rs. 150/ pm. Whether the minimum bandwidth of 512 kbps is to be strictly maintained for implementing the special tariff USO plans in order to avoid penalty as per clause 16.12 & 16.13 of the agreement or it is allowed in case the bandwidth is less than 512 Kbps

Ans. 1 As per commercial conditions in para 14-0 of the agreement, minimum speed should be 512 Kbps. The USO Rural Plans offered are with minimum speed of 512 Kbps

Q. 2.(a) vide reference (2) above special rural tariff is applicable to all rural customers with modems supplied free of cost. Whether the existing customers are also allowed to migrate to the new rural plans and to be provided with modems free of cost.

Ans. 2 . . Existing rural tariff is applicable to all customers served by rural exchanges. As such customers have freedom to migrate from one plan to another at any time. However. Free modem as per plan may be provided to only first 31 customers w.e.f. 20.01.09. The modem will remain property of BSNL.

Q 2(b) Does it presume that we will be getting subsidy for only 31 connections and loss accruing due to subsidized connections for the rest of rural connections is to be borne by BSNL?. If so Kerala circle will be incurring loss of Rs. 65 lakhs / month in fixed charges apart from the idle investment made in the supplying free modems.

Ans. 2(b).. As per the agreement, subsidy can be claimed for net 31 broadband connections, given from 20-01-2009 in respect of customers served through rural exchanges covered in the agreement.

Q. 3. Whether the criteria for selection of 31 connections for special tariff plan under USO subsidy is for the first 31 connections per DSLAM where connection already provided in the rural exchange or the connections provided after the USO agreement date i.e. after 20.01.2009.

Ans. 3. As per the agreement, subsidy can be claimed for net 31 broadband connections, given from 20-01-2009

Q. 4. Whether the rural customers who are enjoying 20% concession applicable to Government employee are also allowed to change for this special tariff plans and free of modems and additional discount of 20% in the rural plans..

Ans. 4. Any customer can avail only one of the concessions offered by BSNL i.e. 20% concession not applicable in the USO 99 and USO 150 plans

Q. 5. As is done in the case of landline connections , whether USO subsidy is to be claimed only for the rural BB connections provided from rural exchange and not for the urban connections provided from the rural exchange and also whether the rural connections provided from the Urban exchange will be coming under USO subsidy claim.

To put it in a different way whether we should apply these criteria strictly only to all the DSLAMs as notified in DGM(BB), Corporate Office letter ignoring even if they serve some of the urban customers.

Ans. 5. Subsidy is applicable for the broadband connection provided from the rural exchange forming part of the agreement irrespective of the location where the connection is provided.



(R.Sajikumar)

DGM(Broadband Network Planning)

Copy to:

1. All CGMs, Telecom Circles/Metro Districts
2. Dir(Plg & NS) for information pl.
3. GM(BB).