

Annexure - II(b)

P. J. THOMAS

सचिव Secretary

Tel. +91-11-2371 9898

Fax +91-11-2371 1514

e-mail : secy-dot@nic.in



सत्यमेव जयते

भारत सरकार

संचार एवं सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय

दूरसंचार विभाग

संचार भवन, नई दिल्ली-110 001

Government of India

Ministry of Communications &

Information Technology

Department of Telecommunications

Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi-110 001

D.O. No. F.4/Ch(TC)/10

12th May, 2010

Dear Shri Srinivasan,

Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) had addressed Shri G.S. Sandhu, Principal Secretary to Urban Development Department, Government of Rajasthan (copy enclosed) regarding the ban imposed by Rajasthan Government on the installation of Mobile Towers till a new policy is finalized. It is understood that the State Government has now come out with a policy detailing guidelines for installation of towers and poles for the mobile services. The policy envisages levying of registration and monthly recurring charges for the existing and the new towers/ poles in the urban areas. As per the policy, for new tower / poles, there is one time registration fee of Rs. 50,000/- / Rs. 20,000/- with a monthly charge of Rs. 5,000/- / Rs. 2,000/- or Rs. 10/- per sq. feet, whichever is higher. Similarly, for existing tower/poles, there is a one time registration fee of Rs. 25,000/- / 10,000/- and monthly charge of Rs. 5,000/- / Rs. 2,000/- or Rs. 10/- per sq. feet, whichever is higher.

BSNL is a 100 per cent Government of India Public Sector Undertaking providing telecom services all over the country. There are about 1400 existing towers in Rajasthan and BSNL has proposed 135 new towers in urban areas in the near future. The company has plans to make large investment to expand its mobile network for providing affordable mobile services in the far flung areas as part of its social service commitment. This includes providing 3G services wherein a large number of towers require to be set up.

Imposition of the levies and taxes on mobile towers becomes a deterrent factor in providing affordable mobile and value added services to the masses. There is a clause in the policy (clause 28), under which the proposed levies are not applicable to the state government departments. Hence, I request that the same clause may be made applicable to BSNL and thereby exempt BSNL from the payment of the levies for towers and poles.

With regards,

Yours/sincerely,

(P. J. Thomas)

Shri T. Srinivasan
Chief Secretary
Government of Rajasthan
Rajasthan Secretariat
Jaipur-302005