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No. AIBSNLEA/CHQ/Sect(T)/2020

То

Shri Anshu Prakash, Secretary (Telecom) and Chairman DCC, DoT. Sanchar Bhawan. New Delhi.110001

Subject: Request for allotment of USO Fund Projects to BSNL on Nomination Basis and to give a chance to BSNL to fulfill the dream of Hon'ble Prime Minister for the New India.

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Respected Sir,

We would like to draw your kind attention on the above mentioned subject. In this regard, it is submitted that USO Fund was established to help the Government to provide Telecom connectivity to uncovered areas of the Nation which are not commercially viable to Private Telecom Service Providers (TSP). As evident from the Indian scenario, Private players on its own are unable to reach and provide Mobile Telephony as well as Data Services.

USOF has successfully executed several prestigious Projects of National importance, which are basically to connect the uncovered areas by providing the Telecom Facilities based on the latest Technology through BSNL, such as NOFN, LWE, NFS, MARR, VPTs and RDEL etc., which are funded by USOF and are/were executed by BSNL on nomination basis successfully.

At present, the below mentioned on-going Schemes/Projects are in progress which was awarded to BSNL on nomination basis by the different Government Agencies:

On going projects:

- 1. NOFN Project: On nomination basis to BSNL/BBNL
- 25000 Wi Fi Hotspots: On nomination basis to BSNL
- 3. Wi Fi Hotspots at GPs: To CSCs on nomination for all GPs
- LWE Mobile Project: To BSNL on nomination basis
- 5. Connectivity to ANI undersea cable: To BSNL on nomination basis
- 6. OFC in Assam, NE-1 and NE-2: To BSNL on nomination basis
- 7. Mobile Services in Arunachal and Assam: allotted to BSNL on nomination basis, but cancelled later on.

In view of forging, it is pertinent to mention that USOF Projects are basically related to the areas which are commercially unviable and only because of the BSNL operations for a pretty long time; these areas become viable.

Earlier efforts of USOF to unnecessary push the Private players into USOF has resulted only in delaying the Projects like "2G GSM in some of the areas of NE" and none of the Project got successfully completed. BSNL being the Government Agency and having resources at ground level on all the unconnected places can best deliver the Projects in time bound manner and it has its own reputation for executing such Projects successfully. With the allotment of these Projects to BSNL, it will empower and help in reviving the BSNL and make it self sustainable as desired by the Union Cabinet. There are some USO Funded Projects which are in the pipeline:

- 1) LWE Phase-II
- 2) Mobile coverage Project in ANI
- 3) Mobile coverage Project in Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh and Assam
- 4) Uncovered villages

These Projects cost is more than Rs.10,000 Cr and if the same are allotted to BSNL on nomination basis, it will create huge Assets for Nation and BSNL and also help the BSNL to revive. Recently, USOF has notified an Open Tender for the provision of 2G+4G based Mobiles Services at MHA identified Tower locations in the Left wing Extremist (LWE-II) affected areas.

Considering the above facts, and the presence and infrastructure of BSNL in these areas, for providing Mobile Services in left over LWE area with desired advantage to maintain homogeneity in Network and seamless mobile connectivity, it is requested that the LWE-II and other Projects may kindly be allotted to BSNL on nomination basis so as to utilize the resources efficiently and effectively for the welfare of the Nation as well as the State Owned BSNL.

With kind regards,

Yours Sincerely -sd-S.Sivakumar General Secretary

Copy for information and necessary action to-

- 1. Shri P.K. Purwar, CMD BSNL, New Delhi- 110001.
- 2. Shri Sheetla Prasad, Director (CM) BSNL Board, New Delhi-110001.