



No. Regln/1-14/2011/ 5695

Dated: 16-01-2018

To

Advisor (B & CS)

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India,  
Mahanagar Door Sanchar Bhawan,  
Jawahar Lal Nehru Marg, (Minto Road),  
New Delhi-110002.

{Kind attention: Shri S.K. Singhal, Advisor (TRAI)}

Sir,

Sub:-TRAI Consultation paper on "Inputs for Formulation of **National Telecom Policy-2018**'

Kindly refer to TRAI Consultation paper on "Inputs for Formulation of **National Telecom Policy-2018**' issued on dated 03-01-2018. In this context, BSNL's view is as follows.

**BSNL views on NATIONAL TELECOM POLICY-2018**

The PSUs have played a pre-eminent role in provision of telecom services in the country, particularly in rural, remote, backward and hilly areas. Contribution of BSNL and MTNL to broadband penetration in the country is significant. The importance of PSUs in meeting the strategic and security needs of the nation can also not be understated. The policy should recognize that these PSUs will continue to play such important role.

1. NTP-2012: To provide continued support from USO fund for telecom services, including converged communication services in commercially unviable rural and remote areas.

**Suggestion for NTP-2018**: If BSNL has to continue to provide land line services in rural areas, BSNL would be adequately compensated by USO subsidy on annual basis for providing services in non-remunerative areas.

2. To recognise the strategic importance of Telecom PSUs in nurturing/enhancing Government's intervention capabilities in matters of national security or international importance, including execution of bilateral projects funded by Government of India.

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3. NTP 2012: Appropriately consider the restructuring of the Public Sector Undertakings, under the Department of Telecommunications, in terms of management, manpower and equity.

Suggestion for NTP 2018:- Accordingly allocation of Spectrum for 4G/5G services for BSNL in form of equity infusion to roll out 4G/5G services.

4. NTP 2012: To exploit individual strengths of organisations under DoT/DIT to their mutual benefit for ensuring these organisations to effectively flourish in the competitive telecom market while adequately supporting the security needs of the nation. Efforts will be made for according preferential treatment for procurement of products and services rendered by individual organisations.

Suggestion for NTP 2018:-

- a) Commercial telecom services of central and state Govt. should be taken from BSNL only.
  - b) BSNL should be given DEFAULT status as "PROVIDERS", in respect of "Interconnect issues" with other TSPs.
  - c) Allocation of smart cities by state governments on nomination basis to BSNL.
5. BSNL, being Govt. entity, has to cover all areas under its jurisdiction without any discrimination, it should be **fully exempted from RoW charges** for laying U/G cables/ OFC cables.
6. To issue guidelines for augmenting and promoting BSNL Fixed Mobile Telephony (FMT) services.
7. Wi-Fi services to be utilized as an alternative to 4G technology for the purpose of Voice & Data.
8. Introduction of 5G and IoT Technologies in India market could become booster for 'Digital India' and 'Make in India' flagship programmes of Government of India.
9. It has been envisioned that Telecom Sector acts as an enabler for various Socio-Economic schemes of Government of India specifically in Rural India. It is therefore suggested that proper financial compensation strategy should be devised so as to boost up sentiments of telecom sector.

Suggestion for NTP 2018:- BSNL has to continue to provide land line services in rural areas. BSNL would be adequately compensated by USO subsidy on annual basis for providing services in non-remunerative areas.

2. To recognise the strategic importance of Telecom PSUs in Government's intervention capabilities in matters of national security importance, including execution of bilateral projects funded by Government of India

(Ved Prakash Verma)  
AGM (Regulation-II)