DIRECTION

Subject: Direction under section 13, read with sub-clauses (i) and (v) of clause (b) of sub-section (1) of section 11, of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997 (24 of 1997), read with regulation 15 and regulation 18 of the Telecommunication Mobile Number Portability Regulations, 2009 (8 of 2009), to return to the Number Range Holder the mobile numbers ported to those service providers who had closed their operation pursuant to the judgment and orders of Hon’ble Supreme Court.

No. 102-11/2012-NSL-II(Pt.) ----- Whereas the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India [hereinafter referred to as the Authority], established under sub-section (1) of section 3 of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997 (24 of 1997) (hereinafter referred to as the TRAI Act, 1997), has been entrusted with discharge of certain functions, inter alia, to regulate the telecommunication services, protect the interests of consumers of the telecom sector, ensure technical compatibility and effective inter-connection between different service providers, lay-down the standards of quality of service to be provided by the service providers and ensure the quality of service and conduct the periodical survey of such service provided by the service providers so as to protect the interest of the consumers of telecommunications service;

2. And whereas the Authority had, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 36, read with sub-clauses (i), (iii) and (v) of clause (b) of sub-section (1) of section 11 of the TRAI Act, 1997, made the Telecommunication Mobile Number Portability Regulations, 2009 (8 of 2009) [hereinafter referred to as the regulations] applicable to the access service providers providing Unified Access Services and Cellular Mobile Telephone Service;

3. And whereas in compliance of the Judgment and Orders dated the 2nd February, 2012, the 24th April, 2012, the 27th August, 2012, the 14th January, 2013
and the 15th February, 2013 passed by the Hon’ble Supreme Court in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 423 of 2010 and Writ Petition (Civil) No. 10 of 2011, the service providers, whose licensees were quashed and who did not participate or could not acquire spectrum in the auctions conducted by the Government [hereinafter referred as quashed licensees], have closed their operations;

4. And whereas, sub-regulation (5) of regulation 15 of the regulations provides that in case, after porting of mobile number to the Recipient Operator’s network, there is a disconnection of the mobile number for any reason, other than the outstanding dues to the Donor Operator which is governed by the provisions of sub-regulation (4) of regulation 15 of the regulations, the Recipient Operator shall, after ninety days of such disconnection, inform the Mobile Number Portability service provider about such disconnection with a request for reversal of such mobile number to the Number Range Holder;

5. And whereas in order to examine the number reversal process, the Authority, vide its letter dated the 25th March, 2013, directed M/s Syniverse Technologies India Pvt. Ltd and M/s MNP Interconnection Telecom Solutions Pvt. Ltd, the Mobile Number Portability Service providers, to furnish, inter-alia, the details of the mobile numbers ported from the network of other service providers to the network of quashed licensees;

6. And whereas the Mobile Number Portability Service providers referred to in the preceding para, have vide their e-mail dated the 26th March, 2013 and the 1st April, 2013, informed the Authority that as per their record, 50,276 mobile numbers in Zone-I and 49,005 mobile numbers in Zone-II, ported from the network of other service providers to the network of quashed licensees, have remained with the latter when they stopped their services;

7. And whereas due to closure of operation, the quashed licensees, could not inform the Mobile Number Portability Service provider for reversal to the Number Range Holder, the mobile numbers referred to in the preceding para and therefore in order to ensure compliance of the provisions of sub-regulation (5) of regulation 15 of the regulations, the Authority has decided that the said mobile numbers should be returned to the Number Range Holder by the Mobile Number Portability Service providers as per the record available with them;

8. And whereas regulation 18 of the regulations, inter-alia, provides that the Authority may, from time to time issue such directions as it may deem fit to the service providers on any aspect of Mobile Number Portability for which provisions have been made in the regulations;

9. Now, therefore, in exercise of power conferred upon it under section 13 read with sub-clause (i) and (v) of clause (b) of sub-section of section 11, of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, (24 of 1997), read with regulation 15 and
regulation 18 of the Telecommunication Mobile Number Portability Regulations, 2009 (8 of 2009), the Authority hereby directs M/s Syniverse Technologies India Pvt. Ltd and M/s MNP Interconnection Telecom Solutions Pvt. Ltd to take following actions with regard to those mobile numbers, which were ported from the network of other service providers to the network of quashed licensees:-

a) to remove the number from the Number Portability Database;
b) to update the Local Number Portability Database of all the Access Providers and International Long Distance Operators;
c) to restore the Mobile Number to Number Range Holder; and
d) furnish compliance report to the Authority within Fifteen (15) days from the date of issue of this Direction.

(Sanjeev Banzal)
(16/5/13)
Advisor (Networks, Spectrum and Licensing)

To,

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