

in 2500 MHz frequency band in 20 Licensed Service Areas (LSAs) to deploy any technology including 4G services. BSNL also have spectrum allotment in 800 MHz, 900 MHz and 1800 MHz bands on administrative basis. Such administratively allotted spectrum can be liberalised and used to deploy any technology including 4G services.

BSNL has recently applied for allotment of spectrum of 2x5 MHz (paired) in 2100 MHz band in 19 LSAs and for 2x5 MHz (paired) in the 800 MHz band in one LSA (Rajasthan) for deployment of 4G services.

(c) Department of Telecom (DoT) is utilising the strength and competence of BSNL to implement a number of important projects such as providing mobile connectivity in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas, implementation of comprehensive telecom development plan for Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep Islands through augmentation of satellite connectivity/bandwidth, Optical Fibre Cable based Network for Defence Services (NFS Project), execution of BharatNet Project, execution of comprehensive Telecom Development Plan for the North-Eastern Region for provision of mobile services in uncovered villages in Arunachal Pradesh and two districts of Assam, implementation of transmission media plan for North Eastern Region, Submarine Optical Fibre Project for providing connectivity to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, setting up of 25000 Wi-Fi Hotspots at Rural Telephone Exchanges of BSNL and setting up of Satellite Gateway.

This improves the capacity utilisation of the organisation, enhances and diversifies the revenue generating avenues while at the same time facilitating the fulfilment of Government objectives.

#### **Processing of mobile number portability**

2626. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that TRAI has proposed processing of mobile number portability request through MNP service provider, instead of telecom operator;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that this would curb rejection of subscriber requests to change their network; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has notified the Telecommunications Mobile Number Portability (Seventh Amendment)

Regulations 2018 on 13th December, 2018. The Regulation will come into effect after six months from the date of issue in the Gazette. As per the amended regulations, the Unique Porting Code (UPC) will be generated and delivered by the Mobile Number Portability Service Provider (MNPSP). It shall be done by MNPSP only after making queries from the Donor Operator regarding fulfilment of porting conditions. Therefore, once the UPC is generated, the rejection of porting requests is expected to get curbed.

#### **Setting aside of TRAI regulation**

2627. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal has set aside a regulation brought by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India which prohibited incumbent operators from providing segmented offers to their high ARPU (average revenue per user) subscribers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the said tribunal has also struck down the definition of predatory pricing which the regulator had brought through the same regulation, which prevented operators having 30 per cent or more subscriber and revenue market share, from providing below cost tariff but newer operators were free to offer such tariff till they reached the threshold mark?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) No regulations issued by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) under reference has been set aside by the Telecom Dispute Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT). However, TDSAT *vide* its judgment dated 13th December, 2018, has set aside the Telecommunication Tariff (63rd Amendment) Order, 2018 dated 16.02.2018, so far as it changes the concept of Significant Market Power (SMP), Non-predation and the related provisions and ordered that these provisions shall be reconsidered by the Authority at the earliest, preferably within six months.

#### **Fixing of spectrum usage charge**

2628. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) had recommended fixing a flat spectrum usage charge for operators at three per cent of their adjusted gross revenue;