



All India Graduate Engineers & Telecom Officers Association

Central Headquarter, New Delhi

(The Recognised Representative Association of BSNL)

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GS/AIGETOA/2021/11

dated 20.01.2021

To,

The Administrator (USOF)
Dept of Telecom, New Delhi-110001.

Subject: Approval of long awaited matters represented by BSNL for CAPEX and OPEX subsidies in 25000 rural Wi-Fi Hotspot Project-Reg.

Respected Madam,

Happy Greetings for New Year 2021 and we hope for a great beginning and normalcy of life post pandemic under your visionary leadership. We are sincerely grateful to dignitaries in USOF for trusting and selecting BSNL for being Torch Bearer of Digital India Mission of Government of India in far flung rural territories of the country through 25000 rural Wi-Fi Project.

Although the journey towards the target was not very encouraging, our field officers especially team of young and dynamic executives of BSNL have taken personal efforts in the direction to complete the project despite severe financial/resources crunch. It may be appreciated that due to persistence and hard work of our field officers and able guidance of senior officers the project was completed to the extent of 95% within the target timeline as approved by USOF. The deployed Wi-Fi Hotspots have immensely served and helped the rural population during lockdown times by providing monthly aggregate data traffic to the tune of 500 TB.

It is to appraise here that, we the recognised representative association of executive of BSNL has carried out series of discussions with various units/executives of BSNL to review issues affecting the finances of the company and remedial ways to improvement the situation in revenue generation. In one of such discussions, it has been brought to our notice that upkeep and maintenance of the deployed rural Wi-Fi Hotspots is suffering badly due to following approvals awaited from USOF:

1. Approval of actual CAPEX of INR 47.99 Cr which is already incurred by BSNL for deployment of 4714 Wi-Fi Hotspots from the equipments of Wi-Fi MDO tender (T-525 dated 26.10.2015). The matter has been pursued since Sep 2019 by NWP-BB Cell of BSNL Corporate Office, New Delhi.
2. Approval of CAPEX incurred on 2000 rural Wi-Fi Hotspots which had to be relocated/diverted to alternate 2G rural GSM BTS sites or other rural exchanges due to closure of exchanges/media unavailability etc. The case is being followed up since Feb'2020.
3. Approval of OPEX @20% of the CAPEX amounting to INR 14.20 Cr for O&M of Add-on Wi-Fi Core, which is exclusively serving subscriber management, AAA, captive portal, voucher management of rural Wi-Fi customers under 25K project. The demand note for 1st year of OPEX on the same is submitted by BBNW Circle Delhi on 28.01.2020. All clarifications/replies sought by USOF are provided by NWP-BB Cell of BSNLCO.

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In the light of above facts, we request for your kind consideration of these submission so as to enable BSNL for early payment of outstanding dues of the vendors in the project and proper upkeep and utilization of the deployed rural Wi-Fi Hotspots.

With warm regards,

--Sd/--

**[MD.WASI AHMAD]
General Secretary**

Copy for kind information please:

1. The PPS MoC, Government of India, Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi.
2. The Secretary(T), Dept of Telecom, Govt of India, Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi.
3. The CMD BSNL, BSNL Corporate office Bharat Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi.
4. The Director (CFA), BSNL Corporate office Bharat Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi.
5. The Director (Fin), BSNL Corporate office Bharat Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi.