GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2760 TO BE ANSWERED ON 10TH JULY, 2019

TELEPHONE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

2760. SHRI REBATI TRIPURA: SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR: SHRI ANURAG SHARMA: SHRI VIJAY KUMAR DUBEY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any criteria to nominate Members of Telephone Advisory Committee (TAC) of the concerned telecom circles, especially in Bundelkhand, Bihar, U.P. and North East region;

(b) if so, the details and the time frame thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of mechanism to set up and monitor the nomination of Members of TAC along with the time limit, if any, for the entire process; and

(d) the details of locations where these nominations have been started?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS, LAW & JUSTICE AND ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) & (b) Sir, nominations of members of Telephone Advisory Committees (TACs) are made in accordance with provisions of circular No. 8-01/2004-PHP dated 10.09.2004 (Annexure-I), as amended vide circular No. 5-15/2005-PHP dated 23.05.2016 (Annexure-II). There are no separate criteria to nominate members of Telephone Advisory Committees (TACs) specific to any telecom circle including Bundelkhand, Bihar, U.P. and North East region.

(c) & (d) On receipt of recommendations from Hon'ble Members of Parliament (both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha), the nominations of members of Telephone Advisory Committees (TACs) are considered and approved at the level of Minister of Communications, on priority. The Telephone Advisory Committees (TACs) at all the telecom district level are already functioning and the present tenure of these Telephone Advisory Committees (TACs) is upto 14.11.2019. However, addition/deletion of members in a Telephone Advisory Committee (TAC) is an ongoing process.

Annexure referred to in reply of para (a) and (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2760 to be answered on 10th July, 2019 raised by Hon'ble Member of Parliament Shri Rebati Tripura, Shri Santosh Kumar Shri Anurag Sharma and Shri Vijay Kumar Dubey, regarding Telephone Advisory Committee

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS & IT DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS 415, SANCHAR BHAWAN, 20-ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI-1

No. 8-01/2004-PHP

September 10, 2004

CIRCULAR

Subject :- Constitution of Telephone Advisory Committees (TACs) at Telecom District level.

It has been decided that Telephone Advisory Committees(TACs) will be reorganized for each Telecom Districts for a period of two years or till further orders whichever is earlier under the chairmanship of the Principal General Manager (PGM), General Manager(GM), Telecom District Manager(TDM) or Telecom District Engineer(TDE), as the case may be. In the case of Metro Districts viz. Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai, one TAC each will be constituted under the Chairmanship of the concerned Area General Manager.

The TACs will be functioning in the following manner:-

Nomination of MPs in TAC

- i. The Hon'ble Members of Parliament shall be members of only one TAC falling within their constituency by virtue of their office. In case of nominated Rajya Sabha MPs, they may be nominated in the TAC falling within their adopted constituency [with regard to the constituency adopted for Member of Parliament Local Area Development (MPLAD) programme]. However, Hon'ble MPs who become ministers shall not be nominated/cease to continue in the TAC.
- ii. Hon'ble MPs shall be given Co-Chairman status in TAC meetings in which he/she is present.
- iii. Hon'ble MPs shall be member of a TAC till the tenure of the TAC or remains member of the House (Rajya Sabha/Lok Sabha) whichever is earlier.

Strength of TAC

The maximum strength of members in a TAC will be 20. However, the strength could be revised through specific orders of Department of Telecom in any special case.

Nomination of TAC member

It would be ensured that the nominated TAC member have no outstanding telephone bills/dues pending in Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL)/Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL).

Facilities to TAC members

- i. Each TAC member will be provided with a rent-free telephone connection on out of turn basis at his/her residence within the area of jurisdiction of the concerned TAC with 500+ free calls available to general subscribers as per commercial policy without ISD/STD facility.
- ii. As per the prevailing policy, calls above the free calls shall be charged in appropriate commercial plan. Fixed WLL telephone connection shall be provided where the area is technically non-feasible. CLIP facility shall be provided to a TAC member if he/she abides by the commercial formalities. CLIP telephone/device shall be procured by the TAC members.
- TAC members shall be permitted for conversion of his/her working private telephone connection into TAC telephone provided under the capacity of TAC member subject to withdrawal of STD/ISD facility if available and clearance of up to date dues, if any. It will be incumbent upon each TAC members to pay the telephone bill above the free calls as per the commercial policy applicable to the member from time to time.
- iv. Concerned GM level officer will ensure that the excess billing amount is realized from the TAC member within the prescribed time limit and would initiate appropriate action as per rule. All the commercial policies for realization of due/outstanding shall be applicable to TAC members also.
- v. On expiry of his/her tenure, a member of TAC may be allowed to retain his/her telephone connection on private account.

TA/DA to TAC members for attending TAC meeting

Each TAC shall hold at least two meetings every year preferably when Parliament/State Legislature is not in session.

- i. Hon'ble Members of Parliament/MLAs are entitled to avail TA/DA as per the rules applicable to them (FRSR-II Appendix 2).
- ii. Non-official TAC members are also entitled to avail TA/DA (conveyance allowance for local) as per the rule (FRSR-II).

Functions of the TAC

- i. TAC shall work as interface between telephone consumers and BSNL/MTNL.
- ii. Giving the public a confidence that their grievances are properly represented as well as redressed.
- iii. Educate public/bring awareness among telephone consumers about the various services provided by BSNL/MTNL.
- iv. To suggest measures for efficiency.

Termination of membership of TAC member

The membership of a TAC can be terminated any time by the orders from Department of Telecommunications. Additionally, the ineligibility conditions which may also attract termination are following:-

- i. If any member fails to attend two consecutive TAC meetings of the TAC of which he/she is a member.
- ii. On the report of the Chairman of the TAC on misbehaviour/unsocial or antisocial activities on the part of the TAC members.
- iii. If the members runs into outstanding arrears of his/her telephone connection.

Kindly acknowledge the receipt of this circular.

Hindi version will follow.

(AJEET SINGH) Director(PHP) Tel. No. 23372531

То

The Chairman-cum-Managing Director, BSNL, New Delhi The Chairman-cum-Managing Director, MTNL, New Delhi

Copy to:-

- All the Hon'ble MPs

 (Liaison Officer(Phones), DOT, Room No. 520, 5th Floor, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi-1. He is requested to bring it to the notice of all the Hon'ble MPs without fail).
- 2. PS to MOC&IT/MOS(C&IT)
- 3. PPS to Chairman(TC)
- 4. PPS to Member(S)
- 5. Press Information Officer, DOT; PIB, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi

(Sangeeta Chugh) Asstt. Director General(PHP-I) Tel. No. 23725254

Annexure referred to in reply of para (a) and (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2760 to be answered on 10th July, 2019 raised by Hon'ble Member of Parliament Shri Rebati Tripura, Shri Santosh Kumar Shri Anurag Sharma and Shri Vijay Kumar Dubey, regarding Telephone Advisory Committee

No. 5-15/2005-PHP Government of India/Bharat Sarkar Ministry of Communications & Information Technology Department of Telecommunications Room No. 516, PHP Section, 20, Ashoka Road, Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi.

Dated the 23rd May, 2016

<u>CIRCULAR</u>

Subject: - Granting the status of Chairman to Hon'ble MPs in TAC meetings-regarding.

In partial modification of this department earlier circulars No. 8-01/2004-PHP dated 10.09.2004 and No. 08-01/2009-PHP dated 26.10.2010, it has been decided by the competent authority that henceforth, Hon'ble Member of Parliament (MP) shall be given status of Chairman in Telephone Advisory Committee (TAC) meetings in which he/she is present. However, in cases where the area of jurisdiction of a TAC exceeds the constituency area of one MP viz. more than one MP in a TAC, there one MP will be given the Chairman status in Telephone Advisory Committee (TAC) in the meetings in which he/she is present, while other MPs will be given the status of Co-Chairman.

2. Further, the concerned Principal General Manager (PGM), General Manager (GM), Telecom District Manager (TDM) or Telecom District Engineer (TDE) be granted the status of Member-Secretary in TAC meetings. In case of Metro Districts viz Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai, the concerned Area General Manager shall be granted the status of Member-Secretary in TAC meetings.

3. The circulars No. 8-01/2004-PHP dated 10.09.2004 and circular No. 08-01/2009-PHP dated 26.10.2010 stand modified upto the above extent and rest of their content will remain unchanged.

4. This has the approval of Hon'ble MOC& IT.

-Sd/-(Urvashi Sangwan) Assistant Director General (PHP) Tel- 23036255

То

- 1. The Chairman-cum, Managing Director, MTNL, New Delhi.
- 2. The Chairman-cum, Managing Director, BSNL, New Delhi.
- 3. All CGMs Telecom Circles.
- 4. All Heads of Telecom District.

Copy to:-

- 1. PS to Hon'ble MoC&IT.
- 2. PPS to Secretary (T).
- 3. PPS to Member (S)/Member (F)/ Member (T).
- 4. Addl. Secretary (T)/ Administrator (USOF)/ Advisor (O)/Advisor (T)/ Advisor (F)/ Wireless Advisor (WPC).
- 5. All Sr. DDGs/ All JSs/ Legal Advisor, DOT.
- 6. The Director (IT), DOT for uploading the circular on DoT website.
- 7. All sections/wings of DoT.
- 8. Guard File.
