



हिन्दी का मान : राष्ट्र का सम्मान

Archana G. Gulati
Joint Administrator(F)
Universal Service Obligation Fund

भारत सरकार
संचार और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय
दूरसंचार विभाग
संचार भवन, 20, अशोक रोड
नई दिल्ली-110 001
Government of India
Ministry of Communications & IT
Department of Telecommunications
Sanchar Bhawan, 20 Ashok Road
New Delhi-110 001
WEBSITE : www.dotindia.com
www.investindiatelecom.com

D.O.No.1-1/2008-USF

Dated the 10th August, 2008

Dear

Subject: Timely Settlement of USO Claims

Settlement and disbursement of subsidy claims of the Universal Service Providers is one of the important items of work that has been delegated to the CCA offices and timely settlement is its essence. The quarterly claims should be settled within a month of receipt and it would stand to reason that even in exceptional circumstances this process should be completed before the claim of the subsequent quarter is received. Timely settlement also ensures that subsidy disbursement is spread evenly across the financial year and that we need not rush in the months of February and March to meet the budget allotment, a practise that is commented upon adversely by MoF and the Budget division. Last year, we were also reprimanded by the Standing Committee on IT with regard to tardy progress of claim settlement and the unsettled balances carried forward. Appreciating the importance of timely settlement, USOF HQ has issued a number of enabling instructions and letters. Some of the important ones are mentioned below:

1. Letter issued to DDG RN vide letter No.1-1/2007-USOF dated 19.11.07 wherein BSNL was instructed to submit w.e.f 31.12.07, a list of permanently closed, zero meter reading and disconnected VPTs along with the quarterly claims.
2. Letter No.1-1/2008/USOF (Payments) dated 17th April 2008, inter alia, dealing with settlement within 30 days of receipt of claim, settlement of withheld amount within six months
3. Instructions issued vide letter No. 1-1/2008-USOF dated 6.5.08 to CMD BSNL wherein a new procedure was introduced w.e.f Q.E June 2008 whereby the relevant portions of subsidy claims are to be authenticated by DGM (TRA)/GM (TRA) of the BSNL Circles by recording a certificate to the effect that the information in subsidy claim tallies with billing records. This is to ensure correctness of claims and hence expedite subsidy settlement.
4. Letter No. 1-1/2008/USOF (Corr) dated 22nd May 2008 reiterating the importance of timely settlement.

Special instructions have also been issued to finally settle RDEL "after" claims and withheld VPT claims (On account of hundred percent verification vis-à-vis billing records) by 30th September 2008. Powers have also been delegated to the CCA offices to disallow ineligible claims.

It is hoped that in view of the above, there would be little or no reason, in the future, for CCA offices to exceed the time schedule of 30 days for settlement of subsidy claims as prescribed by the 'Financial Conditions' of the various Agreements or to not achieve final settlement of withheld claims within six months of claim receipt.

On review of claim settlement position for the Quarter Ending 31.03.2008(excluding the RDEL extended period claims), it is heartening to see that a number of the CCAs viz. A.P, Haryana, J&K, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan and UP (W) do not have any claims lying unsettled. They have done good work. Some CCAs like H.P, UP (E), Uttaranchal and West-Bengal have settled almost 80-90% of the claimed amount. They too deserve praise but are requested to ensure 100% settlement in future.

However, there are nine CCAs whose settlement is almost nil or nil even after a lapse of three months and this is indeed a cause for concern. It is expected that with some effort, these CCAs too can achieve the results achieved by the others. They are requested to ensure that the claims for the Q.E 31.03.2008 are settled before 31st August 2008. I would also request CCA offices to achieve final settlement of all withheld amounts including those for RDEL "after" and VPTs by the target date. In this regard, you are always welcome to share with us any persistent problems you encounter on account of non receipt of essential data from USPs, or any other difficulty with respect to claim settlement, so that we may take up the matter at USOF HQ level.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,



(Archana G. Gulati)

To

All CCAs

Encl: Status of settlement of claims for the Q.E 31.3.08

DETAILS FOR QE 31-03-2008 AS ON 05-08-2008 (EXCLUDING RDEL-X)

CCA	CLAIMED		WITHHELD		DISALLOWED		SETTLED		UNSETTLED		PERCENTAGE UNSETTLE
	NO	AMOUNT	NO	AMOUNT	NO	AMOUNT	NO	AMOUNT	NO	AMOUNT	
A&N	201	151019	0	0	93	26301	108	124718	0	0.00	0.00
ANDHRA PRADESH	260727	108902274	43	35950	52236	10035048	206841	98831276	1607	0.00	0.00
ASSAM	85865	44312263	0	0	0	0	0	0	85865	4.43	100.00
BIHAR	300370	58198834	0	0	2365	1610326	120	4086039	297885	5.25	90.21
CHATTISGARH	55540	27194930	0	0	0	0	0	0	55540	2.72	100.00
GUJRAT	1288199	62470812	0	0	2	1175	1667	747057	1286530	6.17	98.80
HARYANA	99881	27475190	0	0	7163	3313406	92718	24161784	0	0.00	0.00
HIMACHAL PRADESH	81362	35747358	0	0	0	0	60004	32390158	21358	0.34	9.39
J&K	61462	16249560	0	0	37	53747	61425	16195813	0	0.00	0.00
JHARKHAND	69282	34886294	0	0	0	0	0	0	69282	3.49	100.00
KARNATAKA	345198	85130734	0	0	15682	1832174	329091	83122684	425	0.02	0.21
KERALA	655	428086	0	0	11	7457	644	420629	0	0.00	0.00
MAHARASHTRA	2007125	196961464	85892	15023433	41190	2241987	1880043	179696044	0	0.00	0.00
MP	351882	159297440	0	0	0	0	0	0	351882	15.93	100.00
NE-I	27646	13048551	0	0	0	0	0	0	27646	1.30	100.00
NE-II	35482	19428824	0	0	0	0	0	0	35482	1.94	100.00
ORISSA	146703	88406838	16104	0	1567	2958406	144868	85448432	-15836	0.00	0.00
PUNJAB	191188	45050448	0	0	1953	675238	189235	44375210	0	0.00	0.00
RAJASTHAN	446057	101208614	0	0	1551	7525090	444506	93683524	0	0.00	0.00
TAMIL NADU	177366	34616686	527	927718	1638	503656	11760	271816	163441	3.29	95.08
UP(E)	333032	108871928	0	0	45096	41558436	29758	50158084	258178	1.72	15.76
UP(W)	94918	44328844	0	0	162	286790	94756	44042054	0	0.00	0.00
UTTARANCHAL	55726	28654024	0	10251471	0	0	37856	15381105	17870	0.30	10.54
WEST BENGAL	69337	71966382	0	0	24265	39739438	41366	20244076	3706	1.20	16.65
Grand Total	6585204	1412987397	102566	26238572	195011	112368675	3626766	793380503	2660861	48.10	34.04