

**BHARAT SARKAR    GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**RAIL MANTRALAYA    MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**  
**RAILWAY BAORD    (RAILWAY BOARD)**

No. 2020/Tele/12(1)/1

Dated 15.06.2020

**General Manager(S&T)**  
**All Zonal Railways**

**Chairman & Managing Director,**  
**RailTel Corporation of India Ltd.,**  
**Plate-A, 6th Floor, Office Tower-2,**  
**NBCC Building, East Kidwai**  
**Nagar, New Delhi-110023.**

**M/s Reliance Jio Infocomm,**  
**9th Floor, Maker Chamber-IV,**  
**222, Nariman Point,**  
**Mumbai-400 021**

**Sub: Issue of Plan 'D' CUG SIMs to Zonal Railways.**

**Ref: (i) Railway Board Telecom Circular No. 07/2018, dated 18.11.2018.**

**(ii) TRAI Telecom Tariff (Sixty Fifth Amendment) Order 2020 dated 3rd June 2020.**

**(iii) TRAI Telecom Tariff Order (54th Amendment), 05.11.2012.**

Indian Railways CUG tender was awarded to M/s Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd in 2018 by Railtel. Accordingly, Telecom Circular No. 07/2018 Dated 18.11.2018 and Joint Working Order (JWO) were issued to Zonal Railways. In the JWO, 4 CUG Plans were notified among which plan 'D' (7200 CUG SIMs) was for bulk SMSs only. These bulk SMSs are used by Indian Railways for operational Maintenance and Safety requirements including Disaster Management. SMSs in bulk are sent to Indian Railway Officials through applications such as Data loggers, Disaster Management, Safety etc.

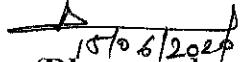
However, CUG plan 'D' could not operationalized, since M/s Jio claimed that as per the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) Telecom Tariff Order (54<sup>th</sup> Amendment) Schedule XIII, SMSs per SIM per day beyond 100 were to be charged @ 50 paisa per SMS. This cost of 50 paisa per SMS beyond 100 SMSs, proved to be deterrent in nature and Railways were forced to continue the use of earlier Airtel SIMs or devise alternative means for sending bulk SMSs to Indian Railways Officials for operational, maintenance and safety requirements.

The matter was then pursued with TRAI to exempt Indian Railways from the above TRAI Telecom Tariff Order (TTO) or withdraw it considering the use of SMSs for Operational, Maintenance and Safety requirements.

TRAI has now favourably considered the above issue and vide it's Telecommunication Tariff (Sixty Fifth Amendment) Order 2020 dated 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2020, Schedule XIII stands deleted. Hence there is no obligation now on Telecom Service providers to charge SMSs @ 50 paisa per SMS beyond 100SMSs. Accordingly Plan 'D' of CUG scheme (7200 SIMs) meant for bulk SMSs only can now be operationalized without any extra cost beyond the contract.



In view of above, M/s Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd and Railtel are advised to issue Plan 'D' CUG SIMs for Bulk SMSs to Zonal Railways, based on their requirements. On the receipt of Plan 'D' CUG SIMs, Zonal Railways are advised to immediately surrender SIMs of other operators currently being used for Bulk SMSs.

  
15/06/2024  
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