File No.BSNLCO-RGLN/25/1/2022-REGLN

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To.

Shri Sanjeev Kumar Sharma, Advisor, (Broadband and Policy Analysis) TRAI, New Delhi.

No. BSNLCO-RGLN/25/1/2022-REGLN

dated 05.04.2022

Sub: Comments of BSNL on Consultation Paper on "Promoting Networking and Telecom Equipment Manufacturing in India".

Kindly find below the comments from BSNL on Consultation Paper on "Promoting Networking and Telecom Equipment Manufacturing in India":

- 1. Networking and Telecom Equipment Manufacturing in India will get a boost only if there is sufficient demand from all TSPs in India. Presently the policy of procuring from domestic manufacturer is applicable only to PSUs, resulting in a very low volume demand of equipment made in India. The policy of preferential/compulsory procurement of the telecom equipment, for which sufficient capacity is available, from domestic manufactures may made applicable to all terlecom service providers.
- 2. To promote NATEM in India under PLI scheme, the Telecom Operators should be incentivized to purchase from domestic manufactures, in the form of rebates in AGR dues. This may also include incentives in the form of easy excess to capex/loans for deploying networks using domestic equipment.
- 3. TSPs should be given incentives in the form of R&D funds for collaborating with domestic manufactures/startups for conducting POCs and carrying out research and development.

Yours faithfully

(Ved Prakash Verma)

DGM (Regulation-II)