

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(Information Technology and Telecommunication Division)

NOTIFICATION

Islamabad, 22nd June 2015

S. R. O. 598 (I)/2015. - In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (ab) of sub-section (2) of section 57 of the Pakistan Telecommunication (Re- organization) Act (XVII of 1996) read with section 33D and other enabling provisions thereof, the Federal Government is pleased to make the following amendments in Research and Development Fund Rules, 2006, namely:-

In the aforesaid Rules: -

(1) In the rule 2, in sub-rule (2), for clause (1), the following shall be substituted, namely:-

(I) "R&D Fund account means the non-lapse public account opened by the Federal Government for credit of R&D Fund:"

(2) In rule 3, -

(a) For sub-rule (1) , the following shall be substituted, namely -

(1) "The R&D Fund and all accretions thereto from time to time shall be kept in the R&D Fund account maintained with the Federal Treasury Office, Islamabad, and release from the fund shall be made in accordance with these rules": and

(b) For sub-rules (4) and (5), the following shall be substituted, namely:-

(4) There shall be a Policy Committee who shall be responsible for management and administration of R&D Fund. The Policy Committee shall comprise the following, namely:-

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| (a) Minister Incharge for IT | <i>Chairperson</i> |
| (b) Secretary, IT & Telecom Division,
Government of Pakistan | <i>Member</i> |
| (c) Secretary, Finance Division,
Government of Pakistan | <i>Member</i> |

(d) Member (Telecom), Federal Ministry of IT	<i>Member</i>
(e) Additional Secretary, Cabinet Division, Government of Pakistan	<i>Member</i>
(f) Joint Secretary (Development) Federal Ministry of IT	<i>Member</i>
(g) Chief Finance and Accounts Officer, Federal Ministry of IT	<i>Member</i>

(5) The Committee shall administer, control and manage the R&D Fund as well as its account and shall ensure that –

- (a) proper books of account for the R&D Fund are maintained;
- (b) custody of the account books, cheque books, securities and other documents and papers pertaining to the R&D Fund and the R&D Fund Account are secured;
- (c) correct disbursements of the budgetary allocations are made;
- (d) one or more signatories to the R&D Fund account are nominated;
- (e) all matters are addressed related to the audit of the R&D Fund;
- (f) make quarterly releases to the Company as per the approved budget of the Company not later than fourteen days before the commencement of each quarter;
- (g) overview and approve assessment for availing grants, endowments from Governments, donors and other agencies;
- (h) necessary co-ordination with relevant licensees and the Authority on matter related to contributions to the R&D Fund; and
- (i) decision of the Committee in regard to R&D Fund rollout shall be fair and transparent:

(6) As soon as the annual budget of the Company is approved by its Board, the same shall be submitted to the Policy Committee for approval

(7) R&D Fund shall be maintained in a no-lapsable public account at Federal Treasury Office, Islamabad to be maintained and operated by the Ministry of IT in accordance with these Rules.

(8) The money in R&D Fund account shall not be used for any other purpose except as provided in the Act.

(3) In rule 7, for sub-rule (4) following shall be substituted, namely:-

“(4) A maximum of eighty percent of the annual incremental collections in the R&D Fund shall be expended towards research and development projects. The balance twenty percent sum may be applied towards the capital and operating expenses of the Company.”
