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PART II

Statutory Notifications (S. R. O.)

GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN

**MINISTRY OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(Information Technology and Telecommunication Division)**

NOTIFICATION

Islamabad, the 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 33 D 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:—

“(1) “R&D Fund account” means the non-lapsable public account opened by the Federal Government for credit of R&D Fund;”

- (2) In rule 3,—

(2299)

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- (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 non-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.”

[No. F. 18-14/2006-DT.]

ROHAIL AZIZ QUIDWAI,
Deputy Secretary.