

Telegraph Rules, 1951

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Telegraph Rules, 1951

S.R.O. 1546.-In exercise of the powers conferred by section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 (XIII of 1885), and in super-session of the Indian Telegraph Rules, 1932, the Central Government hereby makes the following rules: AS AMENDED BY AMENDED RULES, 1986

PART 1

General

1. Short Title and Extent :-

(1) These rules may be called the Indian Telegraph Rules, 1951.

(2) They extend to the whole of India.

2. Definitions :-

In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires :-

(a) Answer-back code means a combination of characters used to provide a short code to identify the subscriber :

(i) Auto-transmitter means an apparatus used for transmission of perforated tapes.

(ii) Call means a conversation between two or more subscribers connected to the same exchange and includes a conversation with such other service connected with the telephone system as may be specified by the Telegraph Authority ;

(b) Called person means a subscriber with whom a caller wishes to speak;

(c) Caller means a subscriber who registers his demand for a trunk call;

(i) 'Collect call' means a call for which the person booking the trunk call specifies, while booking it, that he wishes the call to be paid for by the called party ;

(d) Combined office means a post office which is in telegraphic communication with a Government telegraph office, or at which telegrams may be handed in for despatch by messenger to the nearest telegraph office for onward transmission ;

(i) "Commutator board" means an equipment for terminating telegraph circuits so as to facilitate interconnection between any two desired circuits;

(ii) 'Credit Card facility' means a facility whereunder a subscriber or his representative who has applied for and been issued under such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the telegraph authority with a Credit Card may make trunk calls from any telephone, public or private, to any other telephone and have the charges debited against the telephone subscriber specified in the credit card ;

(e) Departmental exchange means a telephone exchange which is installed, maintained and controlled by the telegraph Authority ;

(f) Departmental telegraph office means a telegraph office dealing only with telegrams and maintained and worked under the direction and control of the Director-General ;

(f) (i) "Dialling unit" means an equipment associated with the subscriber's teleprinter machine to enable calls being set up automatically :

(g) Direct exchange line is a telephone connection directly working on a departmental exchange;

(h) Director-General means the Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs ;

(i) Divisional Engineer means a Divisional Engineer, Telegraph or Telephones and includes all Heads of Telephone District and any other officer who may be empowered to discharge the functions of the Divisional Engineer under these rules ;

(j) Double period or unit means a period in excess of three minutes but not in excess of six minutes ;

(k) Exchange system means any Departmental Telephone

Exchange or Exchanges and any lines connected therewith declared by the Telegraph Authority to be an exchange system ;

(l) Extension means a subsidiary telephone connection having access to the exchange line with or without the intervention of the main station;

(m) External extension means an extension other than an internal extension;

(n) Fixed time call means a trunk call between two numbers which is to be put through at or about a specified time ;

(o) Flat rate system means a system of charging on telephones under which a subscriber is required to pay a fixed annual rental for the line connecting his telephone to any exchange within the exchange system, but not any call fees for local calls from his telephones ;

(p) Government telegraph office includes departmental telegraph offices and combined offices ;

(q) Internal extension means an extension located in the same building in which the main connection is working ;

(r) International telephone service means a trunk call service between India and any other country except Ceylon, Nepal and Pakistan ;

(s) Interpolated Public Call Office means a public call office which is opened on a trunk line between two exchanges ;

(t) Junction line means a line connecting any two exchanges in an exchange system or connecting a departmental exchange with a private branch exchange or an exchange of a licensee or a privately owned exchange ;

(u) Late fee means a fee payable, in addition to the prescribed call charges for a local or trunk call, made from or to a Public Call Office outside its regular working hours.

(v) Licensed telegraph office means a telegraph office maintained and worked for the purpose of receiving and transmitting paid telegrams under a license granted under Section 4 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 (13 of 1885) ;

(w) Local area means the area within 5 Kilometres radial distance

from a telephone exchange or where the Telegraph Authority has declared any area served by an exchange system to be a local area for the purpose of telephone connection, such area ;

(x) Local call means a call from a subscriber's line to another line on any exchange within the same exchange system ;

(y) (i) "Local circuit" means a circuit provided between a telegraph office and the party's premises ;

(y) (ii) "Local Leads" means the circuit provided between a Voice Frequency Telegraph Station, carrier station or Trunk exchange on one side and party's premises on the other, ;

(z) Measured Rate system means a system of a charging of telephone under which a subscriber pays a fixed annual rental for the line connecting his telephone to any exchange within the exchange system and entitles him to make calls free of charge upto a specified number of call units during a fixed period, each call unit in excess of that number being charged at the prescribed rates.

(aa) Message rate system means a system of charging on telephones under which a subscriber, besides paying a fixed annual rental for the line connecting his telephone to any exchange within the exchange system, is also required to pay call fees for each call from his telephone at rates prescribed for such calls ;

(bb) Messenger service means a facility at Public Call Offices for a particular called person at a given address being sent for under such conditions and on payment of such charges as the Telegraph Authority may prescribe;

(bba) Meter demand service means manual trunk telephone service established between stations where the charging is effected automatically on the calling subscriber's telephone meter not involving preparation of trunk call tickets ;

(bb) (i) 'Number-to-Number Call' is a trunk call exchanged between a specified telephone number at one station and another specified telephone number at another station ;

(cc) Own your telephone scheme means a scheme under which the subscriber makes an initial lump sum payment towards the rental for the line connecting his telephone to any exchange within the exchange system, and in consideration thereof is allowed a reduction in the annual rental payable by him for a specified

period;

(dd) Parent exchange to a Public Call Office is the telephone exchange to which it is directly connected ;

(ee) Particular person call means a trunk call where the caller wishes to speak to a specified person ;

(ff) Party line connection is a telephone connection where 2 or more parties share in a common line to a departmental exchange ;

(i) 'Person-to-Person call' is a trunk call arranged from a specified individual at one station to another specified individual at another station whether these persons be subscribers or not ;

(gg) Phonogram means a telegraphic message sent to or received from a telegraph office by a subscriber over the telephone ;

(hh) Postal receiving office means a post office which is not in telegraphic communication with a Government telegraph office but at which inland telegrams may be handed in for despatch by post, without additional charge, to a telegraph office for onward transmission;

(ii) Postmaster-General means a Postmaster-General as defined in Section 2 of the Indian Post Office Act, 1898 (4 of 1898) ;

"Printing perforator" means an apparatus used for preparing perforated tapes which can be fed through an auto transmitter ;

(jj) Private branch exchange means an exchange provided for any one party and connected to a departmental exchange ;

(kk) Private exchange means a telephone exchange provided exclusively for the use of an organisation or an individual and not connected to the public network ;

(ll) Private wires are those which connect two subscribers through a departmental exchange system whether a private wire relay set is installed at the exchange or not and are not connected to the local telephone system and to the general trunk net work.

(mm) Private wire junction means a line connecting two private exchanges;

(nn) Public call office means a telephone office for the use of the general public during specified hours on payment of the prescribed fees;

(i) "Local public call office" means a public call office connected to an exchange and situated within the local area of an exchange system;

(ii) "Interpolated public call office" means a public call office not connected to an exchange by a separate line of its own but interpolated on a direct trunk line between two exchanges ;

(iii) "Long distance public call office" means a public call office which is not a local public call office or an interpolated public call office;

(iv) "Reversed charge call" means a trunk call which a person is authorised to make from any public call office to a specified telephone number without pre-payment of the charges for such a call, the charges being recoverable from the called subscriber ;

(oo) Single period or unit means a period of three minutes or part thereof;

(pp) Subscriber means a person to whom a telephone service has been provided by means of an installation under these rules or under an agreement;

(qq) Subscription fixed time call means a fixed time call between two numbers for 5 or more consecutive days excluding Sundays and Telegraph holidays;

(rr) Telecommunication means any transmission, emission or reception signs, signals, writing, images, sounds or intelligences of any nature, by wire, radio, visual or other electromagnetic system;

(ss) Telegram means written matter intended to be transmitted by telegraphy and includes a "radio-telegram" ;

(ss) (i) "Telegraph circuit" means a medium used for dissemination of written matter or messages ;

(tt) Telegraph office includes a Government telegraph office and a licensed telegraph office, but does not include a military field telegraph office;

(uu) Telegraphy means a system of telecommunication for the transmission of written matter by the use of a signal code ;

(vv) Telephony means a system of telecommunications set up for the transmission of speech or other sound ;

(i) "Teleprinter machine" means an apparatus used on the terminal of a telegraph circuit for printing messages ;

(ii) "Ticker connection" means a circuit provided between the main office of a News Agency and its constituents in the same station;

(ww) Trunk call means a call on a trunk line ;

(xx) Trunk line means a telephone line connecting an exchange system with another exchange system or a public call office on which a fee is levied for a conversation on the basis of the duration of the conversation ;

(yy) Subscriber Trunk Dialling facility (S T.D.) means the facility where by subscribers can obtain trunk calls without the assistance of operators by the use of the dial provided.

(zz) Non-exchange lines are those which connect two subscribers without any departmental exchange intervening.

"(aaa) FIRE ALARM SERVICE means a service consisting of a switch board at the Fire Brigade Station with lines extending upto Telephone instruments in the Fire Alarm Pillars.

(bbb) RIFLE RANGE CONNECTION means a telephone communication between the Markers' hut at a Rifle Range and the different firing points along the Range."

3. . :-

(1) All telegraphs shall be established, maintained and worked in such a manner as not to obstruct or repeatedly interrupt any wireless telegraph service functioning within or without India, or the wireless signalling between any fixed, land or mobile stations of the Armed Force of the Union or the wireless signalling exchanged between any fixed or mobile stations of the Armed Force of the Union and any station abroad.

(2) Nothing in sub-rule (1) shall prevent the use of wireless telegraphs for the purpose of making or answering bona fide distress calls or distress messages, in any manner thought fit.

(3) Except as provided in sub rule (2), if any person contravenes the provisions of sub-rule (1) he shall be punishable with fine as provided in sub-section (3) of section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885.

4. . :-

Frequency allocations and call signs of the Armed Forces of the Union wireless installations shall be treated as secret information.

5. . :-

The accuracy of telegrams is not guaranteed, and all telegrams shall be deemed to be sent subject to acceptance by the sender of all risks arising from non-delivery, errors or delays.

6. Translation of Telegrams :-

At telegraph offices in places other than the Presidency-towns, every assistance possible shall be afforded to the public in the translation of telegrams into English for despatch and in the translation of telegrams received into the language of the place. No fee for this service shall be claimed or given.

7. Secrecy :-

Save in pursuance of his official duty or in obedience to the direction of a competent authority, a telegraph officer shall not disclose, to any person other than the sender or the addressee or the authorised representative of either, the contents of any telegram,

PART 2

Rules for Inland Telegrams

8. General :-

'Inland Telegram' means any telegram the disposal of which does not involve transmission to or from any telegraph office beyond the limits of India.

9. Acceptance of Inland Telegrams :-

Inland telegrams shall be accepted for transmission at all telegraph offices and postal receiving offices, and may, under certain conditions, be accepted by village postmen and at military field telegraph offices.

10. . :-

Inland telegrams handed in at Postal Receiving Offices for forwarding them to the nearest telegraph office by special messenger shall be accepted on payment of portage charges by the sender.

11. . :-

Deleted.

12. . :-

Inland telegrams other than press telegrams (Rules 131 to 142) may be telephoned by the telephone subscribers for onward transmission, without prepayment to such departmental telegraph offices and combined offices as the Head of the Circle may authorise in this behalf on condition that all charges (Rules 62) due on such telegrams shall be paid for on the deposit account system (Rule 68) or through telephone bills where such a system of payment has been introduced, within the prescribed time limit in each case, or in cash. Inland reply telegram forms shall be accepted in lieu of telegraph charges in cash, subject to the provisions of Rules 95 to 97.

13. . :-

Telegrams may be posted from foreign countries to a telegraph office at an Indian port for onward transmission as inland telegrams without prepayment on condition that the charges due on such telegrams shall be recovered from the addressee in the manner provided by rule 71.

14. . :-

Deleted.

15. . :-

All inland paid telegrams, except telegrams at reduced press rates (Rules 133 and 134), may be transmitted without additional charge between any Government telegraph office and any licensed telegraph office.

16. Acceptance of Telegrams on payment of late fee :-

(1) Inland telegams (other than telegrams intended for transmission to canal telegraph offices), foreign telegrams including letter-telegrams and radio-telegrams shall be accepted at Government Telegraph Offices or at such Railway Telegraph Offices as may from time to time, be specified by the Director-General, for transmission at any time, subject to payment of a late fee, if at the time of presentation of the telegram, the office at which it is handed in, or the office to which it is addressed, or any intermediate office through which it must pass, is closed;

Provided that at places where there is more than one telegraph office, one office or in the case of places specified by the Director-General in this behalf more than one office shall be made available for use by the public during closed hours, and no other office in

such place shall in such case accept telegrams for despatch on payment of late fees. Such other offices shall exhibit a notice in a place where it can be read from outside, directing intending senders of telegrams to the nearest open telegraph office, or if there is no open telegraph office which is available for the despatch of telegrams on payment of late fees.

2. The late fee payable for a telegram shall be calculated at the rate of "Rupee Two" for each closed office, within Indian limits, which is required to deal with the telegram and shall be paid to the telegraphists in the concerned offices:

Provided that, when more than one telegram is presented at the same time by, or on behalf of the same sender, a late fee calculated at the rate of Rupees Two for each batch of 5 telegrams or less in respect of each closed office shall be payable.

Provided also that a late fee of Rupees Two for each batch of 5 telegrams or less shall be payable for the telegrams presented at one closed office, whether by one sender or by several senders, on the business of the Meteorological Department within half an hour after the presentation of the first telegram in respect of which the whole of that fee would, save for this proviso, have been payable.

(3) If the attention of a closed office cannot be gained, the late fee collected for that office shall be refunded, but no refund shall in any case be made of the late fee for any office which has dealt with a late fee telegram.

17. Objectionable Telegrams :-

Telegraph offices shall refuse to accept or forward any telegram or any part of a telegram of a plainly objectionable or alarming character. In cases of doubt the matter shall be referred by the officer in charge of the telegraph office to a Secretary to Government or other officer nominated by the State Government from time to time for this purpose, if the office is located at a seat of Government, or to the Chief Civil or Military Officer if the office is located elsewhere.

18. . :-

No letters, characters or devices shall be included in a telegraphic message in Roman or Devanagari script except those shown as admissible under this rule, namely :- (a) Letters/Characters (ii) A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y,

Z: (h) Figures. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 0. Note.- (i) There are no telegraphic signals for Roman numerals. Note.-(ii) Numerals, if any, to be used in Devanagari telegrams shall be the International form of numerals (Rule 18 A). Note.-(iii) Half consonants (Halant characters) are admissible. (c) Stops and other signs Full stop (.), Comma (,), Colon (:), Note of interrogation (?), Apostrophe ('), Hyphen or dash (-), Brackets or sign of a parenthesis () or Bars of division (/) (d) Service Indications and Conventional signs (See rules 29 to 31.) Abbreviated form Full Meaning RP Reply paid Rupees and paise (Rule 94) PC Telegrams with Telegraphic notification of delivery ordinary (Rule 106) XP Portage charges paid (Rule 127) POST To be delivered at destination by post (Rules 84, 117, 118, 129 and 130) Open To be delivered open (Rule 87) MTF More to follow [Rule 136 (2)] EOM End of message [Rule 136 (2)] STATE State Telegrams (Rule 148) TF* (*denotes the Telephone number) To be delivered by telephone (Rule 36) TL* (*denotes telex number) To be delivered by Telex (Rule 36 A) but senders may substitute for them an equivalent which can be telegraphed, e.g., for the expressions quoted above, 30 power a (or 30a), firstly, secondly, B in diamond. (f) Notwithstanding anything contained in this rule the expression 30A, 300, etc., 30a, 30b, etc., 30 bis, 30 ter, etc., 30', 30", etc., 30 30, etc., indicating a house number on an address shall be accepted as written, in whatsoever part of a telegram they may appear. In transmission the number will be separated from the letters or figures accompanying it by an oblique bar, which for the purpose of calculating the charge, shall not be counted as a character in the group of figures or figures and letters composing the house number, whether the sender has or has not written the bar on the copy tendered for transmission.

18A. Acceptance of telegrams in Indian languages written in Devanagari characters. :-

Notwithstanding anything contained in Rule 18, any Telegraph office in India, authorised in this behalf by the Director-General, Postmaster General, General Manager, Telephones, Controller of Postal Services or Director of Posts and Telegraphs may accept telegrams in Indian languages written in Devanagari characters : the numerals, any if, to be used in such telegram shall be international form of numerals. The service will be available only in respect of specified offices.

18B. Application of Indian Telegraph Rules, 1951 to

Telegrams in Devanagiri Characters :-

The Indian Telegraph Rules, 1951, shall be applicable to telegrams in Devanagiri characters mutatis mutandis unless specified otherwise.

19. Erasures, etc. :-

Every footnote, insertion, erasure, correction in a telegram presented for transmission shall be initialled by the sender or by his representative in token of approval.

20. Language, etc. :-

Inland private telegrams may be expressed in plain language or in secret language (e.g., Code or Cipher), but a combination in the same telegram of figures and letters, having a secret meaning, shall not be permitted.

PART 3

RULES FOR FOREIGN TELEGRAMS

171. Rules 171 to 387 Deleted :-

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PART 4

RULES FOR RADIO-TELEGRAMS

PART 5

RULES FOR TELEPHONES

PART 6

International Telephone Service

460. The roles in this part shall apply only to International Telephone Service :-

Save as otherwise provided in this Part, International Telephone Service shall be governed by the rules prescribed for Trunk Calls in Part V.

461. Definitions :-

Without prejudice to the definitions contained in rule 2, the following definitions shall also apply for the interpretation of the rules in this Part, namely ;-

(a) 'Distress' Calls' (Rush or Emergency calls) are calls concerning the safety of life at sea, on land or in air, including exceptionally urgent epidemi ological calls of the World Health Organisation ;

(b) 'Government Call' means a telephone call originated in his official capacity by any one of the authorities specified in rule 348 ;

(c) International Trunk Exchange' means a telephone exchange

which has been specifically set up for the purpose of connecting international telephone calls and to which international telephone circuits are directly connected;

(d) 'Private Calls' are calls other than Distress Calls, Government calls and Service calls;

(e) 'Service Calls' are calls booked by persons authorised to do so by their respective Administration on matters relating to the working of International Telephone or Telegraph service, including the establishment and maintenance of circuits for other telecommunication services effected with the assistance of International Telephone Service.

462. Scope of International Telephone Service :-

(1) International Telephone Service shall be provided by agreement between India and such foreign countries as are notified from time to time by the Central Government.

(2) International Telephone Service to each country shall operate during such hours as are fixed by the telegraph authority from time to time.

463. Classes and priorities of calls and special facilities :-

(1) The Central Government shall determine by mutual agreement with foreign Administrations the classes of calls and special facilities that may be accorded For users in each International Service. The terms and conditions governing classes and priorities of calls and special facilities on calls shall be as prescribed by the Central Government from time to time.

(2) Calls shall ordinarily be set up in the following order :-

(a) distress calls;

(b) service calls for the purpose of re-establishing International telephone routes which have been totally interrupted ;

(c) Government calls (Those for which priority has been specially requested shall be handled earlier than other Government calls for which priority has not been requested) ;

(d) Private calls ; and

(e) service calls other than those included in sub-clause (b).

(3) In services where 'lightning' and 'urgent' classes of calls are admitted, the order of priority for establishing calls shall be :-

(a) distress calls;

(b) lightning service calls for the purpose of re-establishing international telephone routes which have been totally interrupted ;

(c) lightning Government calls ;

(d) lightning private calls ;

(e) urgent Government calls ;

(f) urgent service calls ;

(g) urgent private calls ;

(h) ordinary Government calls for which priority has been specially requested;

(i) Ordinary Government calls other than those included in clause (h) ;

(j) ordinary private calls ; and

(k) ordinary service calls.

(4) Within each of the categories of calls specified in sub rules (1) and (2), calls shall take their turn according to the order in which they are booked.

464. Booking of Calls :-

(1) International telephone calls may be booked by any telephone exchange, and by such Public Call Offices as may be specified by the telegraph authority for booking such calls.

(2) In the booking of a call the following particulars shall be given by the subscriber, namely :-

(i) for a Number-to-Number call ;

(a) calling telephone number ; and

(b) called exchange and telephone number, if not known, address or, any other particulars for identifying the wanted number.

(ii) for a Person-to-Person call ;

(a) calling telephone number ;

(b) called exchange and telephone number ;

(c) name of caller ; and

(d) name of the called person.

(iii) for a Government call : The person booking a Government call shall be required to state his name and rank if asked.

(iv) The subscribers shall also furnish such additional information as shall be required by the International Trunk Exchange for completing the call.

(3) Subject to the provisions of sub rule (2) of rule 462 and sub rule (5) of this rule, a caller may specify at the time of booking a call :-

(a) that he wishes the call to mature only after a particular time stated by him; or

(b) that he does not wish the call to mature between certain stated hours; or

(c) that he wishes the call to be cancelled if it does not mature by a specified time.

(4) The booking of a call may be modified by the caller subject to such terms and conditions as are fixed by the telegraph authority from time to time so long as he has not been advised that the call is amount to be set up.

(5) The period of validity of a booked call, which is otherwise not completed or cancelled by the caller, shall be fixed by the Central Government in agreement with the concerned foreign Administration.

465. Timing and extension of calls :-

(1) A call begins :-

(i) in the case of a Number-to-Number call, when communication is established between the calling and called telephone number, and

(ii) in the case of a Person-to Person call, when communication is established between the specified persons,

(2) The duration of a call so determined shall be charged for at the prescribed rates, provided that there shall be deducted therefrom the periods during which the communication was noted or

recognised to have been ineffective through no fault to the subscribers ; such periods shall be determined by the International Trunk Exchange responsible for fixing the charge.

(3) An announcement such as 'three minutes' and 'six minutes' shall be made to the caller just before the expiry of each unit period of three minutes of effective conversation. Subject to the provisions contained in sub-rule (1) of rule 467 conversation shall not be otherwise interrupted and the caller shall end or extend his call as he desires without being specifically asked at any time whether he wishes as extension.

466. Language of service :-

The English language shall ordinarily be used as a service language by the International Trunk Exchange operators in India for the exchange of conversation concerning the establishment of call with subscribers and International operators of foreign Administrations.

467. Duration of calls :-

(1) The telegraph authority shall have the right to limit the duration of any call to a specified period and also the power to interrupt calls in progress for putting through certain calls is limited, the caller shall be informed of this, if possible, at the time when the call is about to be connected and the calling and the called subscribers shall also be advised of this a few seconds before the disconnection of the call.

(2) Subject to the provisions of sub-rule (1) calls booked from Public Call Offices shall be treated as limited duration calls and the caller shall have no option to extend a call beyond the predetermined time. If a caller requires longer time, he shall book a fresh call.

468. Cancellation of calls :-

A caller may cancel his call at any time before he is called to take the call and the call shall then be treated as ineffective. No charges are ordinarily payable for cancellation of calls except in cases where charges have been prescribed by the Central Government.

469. Charges :-

(1) With respect to effect calls :-

(a) the charges for the various classes and priorities of calls and special, facilities accorded to users shall be fixed from time to time

by the Central Government;

(b) it shall be open to the Central Government to determine by mutual agreement with foreign Administrations any reduction in the charges fixed under clause (a), during particular periods;

(c) the minimum chargeable duration shall be three minutes;

(d) when the chargeable duration of a call exceeds 3 minutes an additional charge shall be made for each minute or fraction of a minute in excess of 3 minutes and the charge per each additional minute shall be approximately one third of the charge for 3 minutes ; and

(e) the charge for a call to any country is the same irrespective of the route used for the establishment of the call.

(2) With respect to ineffective calls :-

(a) no charge shall be leviable for any reason through a fault of telephone service;

(b) except in the case of person to-person calls and calls for which a supplementary charge is due, no charge shall be payable by a subscriber who cancels his call, either before he is informed that the call is at the point of being set up or after having been advised that the call is on the point of being set up when he is informed that the called subscriber is engaged or that there is no reply:

(c) for calls (other than person-to-person calls and calls for which a supplementary charge is due) which are refused by the calling or called subscriber, charge shall be payable equal to the cost of one minute of ordinary conversation exchanged during the charge period in which the refusal took place;

(d) Person-to-Person calls are subject to a report charge the amount of which and the conditions under which such charge is payable shall be fixed by the Central Government from time to time;

(e) in the case of calls for which a supplementary charge is due, the appropriate supplementary charge shall be payable for calls ineffective due to cancellation of booking by the caller, or refusal by the calling or called number or by the called party, provided that in the case of cancellations such supplementary charges shall be payable only if at the moment when the originating International

Trunk Exchange is informed of the cancellation, the particulars in respect of booking have already been transmitted to the next International Trunk Exchange;

(f) when a call is booked to an incorrect number and the call is set up with that number, the call shall be charged for three minutes duration and if the incorrect booking is replaced immediately by another booking of a call to the same country, the previously set up call with the wrong number shall be subject to only one minute charge.

(3) Notwithstanding anything contained in this rule, the charges for ineffective calls with certain special facilities which may be specified by the Central Government shall be as fixed by the Government from time to time.

(4) The provisions of sub-rules (1), (2) and (3) shall not apply to service calls which are exchanged free of charge between the Central Government and foreign Administrations. The Chairman of the Administrative Council and the Secretary General of the International Telecommunication Union, the Director of the International Telegraph and Telephone Consultative Committee, the Director and Vice-Director of the International Radio Consultative Committee and the Chairman of the International Frequency Registration Board may make free telephone calls from India with foreign Administration on the official business of the International Telecommunication Union.

470. Complaints and Refunds :-

Any complaint made after the completion of call shall be investigated by the originating International Trunk Exchange. Claims for reduction of charges shall be considered only if the difficulties experienced have been duly noted or admitted by the competent services of the Administrations or recognised private operating agencies concerned.

471. Miscellaneous :-

The terms and conditions for admitting Programme Transmissions (Vice Casts) shall be as prescribed by the Central Government from time time.

PART 7

PRIVATE TELEGRAPHS

472. . :-

Any person may without a licence establish, maintain and work a telegraph (not being a wireless telegraph) within the limits of a single building, compound or estate :

Provided that no telegraph line pertaining to the telegraph shall pass over or under a public load.

PART 8

Rented Telegraph and Telephone Circuit

PART 9

TELEX SERVICE

504. General conditions for telex connections :-

All connections provided from Teleprinter Exchanges (Telexes), unless governed by a separate contract, are subject to the conditions set forth in this Part.

505. Application for connection :-

(1) An application for a new telex connection or any alterations in the existing connections may be made in writing and in such form and in such manner as may be prescribed from time to time the telegraph authority.

(2) All applications shall be considered strictly in the order in which they are received except when priority has been authorised by the Director- General by general or special instructions.

(3) Where the telegraph authority considers it necessary so to do in the public interest, it may, refuse to comply with any application or withdraw totally or partially the services provided under this Part.

506. Withdrawal of applications :-

Any person who has made an application for a new connection or for the shifting of an existing connection may, at any time before the service is provided and on payment of the actual expenses incurred upto that date which shall be fixed by the Divisional Engineer, withdraw such application.

507. Temporary Connections :-

The Telegraph authority may provide temporary telex connections upto a maximum period of two years. The rental chargeable for such connections shall be as follows :- Every quarter or part upto a maximum period of ¹ [three years] One and a half times the quarterly rental as for a regular connection for each quarter or part. Call charges and installation charges shall be leviable at the same

rates as for regular connections.

1. Subs. for the words "two years" by G.S.R. 679 (E) dated 30/6/1984, r. 2, w.e.f. 30/6/1984.

508. Change of telex number and exchange :-

(1) The telegraph authority shall have the right to change the telex number allotted to a subscriber or change the name of the exchange to which he is connected or to provide the service from a different telex exchange.

(2) The telegraph authority shall have the right to revise the rental and other charges payable, if any, in consequence of such alteration.

509. Change of Answer Back Code :-

The telegraph authority shall have the right to make changes in the Answer Back Code of a subscriber and to ask the subscriber to modify his code name in the Answer Back Code to suit its requirements.

510. Intception or monitoring of telex messages :-

It shall be lawful for the telegraph authority to intercept or monitor a message or messages transmitted through the telex for the purpose of verification of any violation of these rules or for the maintenance of the equipment.

511. Disconnection of Telex connections :-

(1) Where the Divisional Engineer is satisfied for reasons to be recorded in writing, that it is necessary so to do, he may, after giving the subscriber notice in writing for a period of seven days, disconnect the telex connection and in such cases the subscriber shall be entitled for refund of rent for the un-expired portion of the period for which the connection or service was given.

(2) In the event of any emergency the Divisional Engineer, may disconnect the connection of any subscriber with or without notice and in case such disconnection exceeds a period of seven days the subscriber shall be entitled to proportionate rebate of rent.

(3) ¹ If on or before the due date, the rent or other charges in respect of telex service provided are not paid by the subscriber in accordance with these rules, or bills or charges in respect of calls (local, national and international), or other dues from the subscriber are not duly paid by him, any telex or telephone or

telephones rented by him may be disconnected without notice. The telex or telephones so disconnected may, if the Telegraph Authority thinks fit, be restored if the defaulting subscriber pays the outstanding dues and the reconnection fee together with the rental for such portion of the intervening period (during which the telex or telephones remain disconnected) as may be prescribed by the Telegraph Authority from time to time. Subscriber shall pay all the above charges within such period as may be, prescribed by the Telegraph Authority from time to time.

(4) The reconnection shall be subject to technical feasibility and where the telegraph authority considers it necessary in the public interest so to do, it may refuse to give reconnection even on the payment of the charges referred to in sub-rule (3).

(5) Save as otherwise provided in this rule, the disconnection shall be without prejudice to any other right or remedy of the telegraph authority against the subscriber for the recovery of arrears or other moneys due from him under these rules.

1. Subs. for 'sub-rule (3)' by GSR 86 (E) dated 16/2/1983, r. 3, w.e.f. 1-3-1983.

512. Damage to or alteration of equipment :-

(1) Subscriber shall take good care of the teleprinter and other associated apparatus and of all the fixtures and accessories connected therewith located in his premises and shall not damage, alter or remove or cause to be damaged, altered or removed any such apparatus, fixture or accessories or obliterate any mark, word or number which may be written, painted, stamped or impressed therein.

(2) In the event of any damage as mentioned in sub-rule (1), the subscriber shall pay on demand the cost of repairing, renewing or replacing the apparatus, fixture or accessories and the Divisional Engineer may disconnect the connection of a subscriber who alter or makes any attachment to the apparatus supplied.

513. Illegal or improper use :-

(1) No telex connection shall be used for the transmission of any message or communication which is of an indecent or obscene nature or calculated to annoy any person disrupt the maintenance of public order or in any other manner contrary to any provision

(2) No telex connection shall be used for sending or receiving messages other than those originating from, or meant for, a subscriber, subject to the fact that messages of associates or subsidiaries of a subscriber-firm may be sent or received with the previous permission of the telegraph authority.

Provided that the failure to obtain the previous permission of the telegraph authority shall be construed to be a violation of this rule and be subject to the provisions of rule 511.

514. Transfer of telex :-

A subscriber shall not, without the permission of the telegraph authority, assigns, sublet or otherwise transfer the telex connection.

515. Death or change of title of a subscriber :-

In the event of the death of a subscriber or a change in the constitution of a subscriber-firm or institution the person claiming to be successor to such subscriber shall immediately give notice thereof to the telegraph authority and shall apply for permission to retain the telex connection.

516. Surrender of telex apparatus and other accessories :-

(1) On the expiry, termination or closure of a telex service, the subscriber shall surrender to the telegraph authority the apparatus with all fixtures and accessories in as good a condition as they were when installed, ordinary wear and tear excepted. I

(2) The telegraph authority or any telegraph official may, for the purpose of removing the apparatus, fixture and accessories surrendered under sub-rule (1), at all reasonable times, enter the premises of the subscriber and any other place under the control of the subscriber through under or over which any part of apparatus, fixture or accessory passes or is fixed and the subscriber shall not be entitled to any compensation for damages incurred in removing the apparatus, fixture or accessory.

517. Notice of surrender :-

Before surrendering the telex apparatus and accessories under rule 516, the subscriber shall give notice to the Divisional Engineer, Telegraphs of not less than fifteen days.

517A. Service of notice and Bills :-

Any notice, bill or demand from the Telegraph authority for any

rent or charges due from a Telex subscriber, may be served by delivery to the subscriber, or by sending it by post to the address of the subscriber or by leaving it at the premises in or upon which A^^ apparatus is installed,

518. Shifting of premises without intimation :-

If a subscriber vacates the premises in which the telex or other equipment is fitted, the telegraph authority shall be at liberty to recover the apparatus and accessories without affecting the liability of the subscriber for the payment of rent and charges therefor.

519. . :-

All charges are payable on presentation of a bill therefor. The periods for which bills shall be prepared and the dates by which they shall be payable shall be fixed by the telegraph authority. The charges for Telex service shall be as follows :-

A. RENTAL-

1(i) for a telex subscriber's line, inclusive of rent of terminal teleprinter machine within the local area Rs. 4500/- per annum.

(ii) for telex subscriber's line when teleprinter machine is provided by a subscriber himself within the local area Rs. 900 per annum.

(iii) for each additional kilometer or part thereof the actual length of connection beyond the local area Rs. 450 per annum.

(iv) for each perforator attachment Rs. 300/- per annum

(v) for each Transmitter attachment Rs. 396/- per annum

(vi) for each Power Pack Rs. 360/- per annum

(vii) for each switching unit Rs. 100/- per annum

Provided that in cases where the actual length of the connection beyond the local area exceeds five kilometres, the charges specified in item (iii) shall apply only if the connection provided by utilising existing wires or cable conductors with inexpensive changes and in all other cases connection may be provided at such rates as the telegraph authority may fix taking into account the cost of construction and other relevant factors and for such period as that authority may determine.

2 Note 1. The initial minimum period of hire shall be one year.

3. "Note 2.-For the purposes of items (i), (ii) and (iii), local area shall mean, in a city served by a single teleprinter exchange (telex) an area covered within a radius of five kilometres from the teleprinter exchange, and in the case of a city served by more than one teleprinter exchanges, an area within the envelope of circles having a radius of five kilometres drawn around the respective teleprinter exchange".

B. CALL CHARGES-

(i) Local calls : Re. 1/- for every period of three minutes duration or part thereof.

(ii) Long distance call charges ; The long distance call charges for a unit period of duration shall be as follows :- Radial distance between any two teleprinter exchanges \Charge of one rupee for a unit period of (1) Upto 200 kilometres \60 seconds or part thereof. (2) Exceeding 200 kilometres but not exceeding 600 kilometres. 30 seconds or part thereof. (3)Exceeding 600 kilometres. \exceeding 1.000 kilometres. \ 20 seconds or part thereof. (4) Exceeding 1,000 kilometres. \12 seconds or part thereof. Provided that the aforesaid call charges shall be reduced by fifty per cent for long distance calls only during the period between 19.00 hours and 08.00 hours (Indian Standard Time).

C. OTHER CHARGES-

(i) Installation charges	Rs. 150/-
(ii) Shifting charges	Rs. 150/-
(iii) Transfer charges	Rs 60/-
(iv) Telex Attachments :	
(a) Installation charges	Rs. 100/-
(b) Shifting charges	Rs. 100/-
(v) Reconnection charge :	
(a) if restored within a period of 15 days from the date of its disconnection	Rs. 100/-
(b) if restored after 15 days but within a period of six months from the date of its disconnection.	Rs. 150/.
(vi) Public Call Office Charge	Rs. 5/- per call effective or in effective inland/or intef-national.
(vii) Charges for change of Answer	Rs. 20/.

Back Code Number.	
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Note. Where the Telex subscriber is permitted to arrange internal wiring himself, the installation charges specified in item (i) above shall be 50 per cent of the said charges.

D. REFUND No refund shall be admissible if the service is given up during the minimum period of hire. If the facility is given up after the expiry of the minimum period of hire, refund shall be admissible after charging rent upto the date of actual closure of the connection.

1. Subs for ifems (i), (ii) and (iii) by G.S.R. 230 (E) dated 28.3.1984 r. 2(a)w.e.f. 28.3.1984.

2. Renumbered as Note 1 by ibid, r. 2 (b),

519A. . :-

(1) No rebate or refund shall be admissible to a subscriber by reason of breakdown, disrepair, interruption, disturbance, stoppage of communication or of any other cause whatsoever.

(2) The telegraph authority shall on a written notice received from the subscriber that his telex line is not in working order, repair and restore the communication with all reasonable despatch and the subscriber shall render all reasonable assistance for the purpose.

520. Sending and Receivinig telegrams by telex :-

(1) (a) An outgoing telegram may be booked with the Telegraph Office over telex.

(b) A fee of rupee one shall be payable for each such telegram in addition to the charges payable on a similar telegram when booked at the counter of the Telegraph Office.

(2) An incoming telegram shall be transmitted over the telex where the telex numbers is included in the address by the sender or when special delivery instructions to that effect have been registered by receiving subscriber or where this method of delivery is convenient to the telegraph office and has the approval of the subscriber and in such a case, the original of the incoming telegram shall not be separately delivered to the addressee.

Provided that in cases where the subscriber requires the original of the incoming telegram to be delivered to him after its transmission over telex, it shall be delivered either through a special messenger or by registered post if the desire is communicated to the telegraph office immediately after the telex transmission has been completed

or early the following morning as soon as the subscriber's office opens and in such a case, a fee amounting to the cost of a registered letter shall be added, in the monthly bill of the telex subscriber.

521. Telex Public Call Office :-

(1) Telex public call offices provided by the Posts and Telegraphs Department may be used by any member of the public on payment of Public Call Office charges of five rupees per call.

(2) The said charge of five rupees per call includes services of the attendant at the Public Call Office for punching or transmission of the message or both,

Note: Rule 439 comes into force on the 16th June, 1969 and the remaining rules (Rules 473 to 492 to 521) come into force with effect from 30th May, 1969.

522. Service Telex Connections :-

(1) Telex connections for the use of the Posts and Telegraphs Department shall be provided free of rent to the extent considered necessary by the Telegraph Authority.

(2) No charge shall be made for any message or communication sent by telex in connection with the business of the Posts and Telegraphs Department.

523. Definitions :-

12In this part

(a) "Administrator" means the Administrator of the Fund appointed by the Central Government for the administration of the Fund;

(b) "Agreement" means an agreement made between the Administrator and one and more of the Universal Service Provider for the purpose of implementation of Universal Service Obligation;

13(b)(b) " Broadband Connectivity" means an always on data connection that is able to support interactive services including internet access and has the capability of a minimum download speed as prescribed from time to time by the Central Government';

(c) "Capital Cost" means the capital expenditure incurred on providing access as may be determined by the Administrator;

14(d) "Capital Recovery" means the aggregate of depreciation,

interest on debt and return on equity on the capital cost as worked out proportionately and annualized over a period for which support is provided from the Fund;

15(d)(a) "District" means the revenue district as identified in Census of India 2001";

(e) "Fund" means the Universal Service Obligation Fund established under sub-sec. (1) of Sec. 9-A of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 (13 of 1885);

16(f) "Infrastructure means such assets as required for Telegraph Services as determined by the Central Government from time to time;"

17(f)(a) "Mobile Services means telegraph services provided by means of wireless telecommunication system which ensures use while in motion anywhere in the Service Area.;

(g) "Multi Access Radio Relay Technology" means a technology used for providing telephone services;

18(h)[***]

(i) "Net Cost" means Operating Expenses plus Capital Recovery minus Revenue;

19Explanation 1. Where support is to be extended towards Operation and Maintenance only, Net Cost shall mean Operating Expenses minus Revenue;

20 Explanation 2.-Where support is extended towards general infrastructure, for provision of mobile services and broadband connectivity, Net cost shall mean a percentage of Capital Recovery, as determined by the Administrator from time to time."

(j) "Operating expenses" means the annual Operating Cost incurred on operation and maintenance of the specified facilities as may be determined by the Administrator;

(k) "Revenue" means the annual charges including usage charge and applicable rental from the specified Service, without any deduction of any kind whatsoever except taxes relating to the specified Service, if any, paid to the Government;

(1) "Secondary Switching Area" means the area in which the

country is divided by the Telegraph Authority, and is co-terminus with a Long Distance Charging Area;

(m) "Universal Service Obligation" means the obligation to provide access to basic telegraph services to people in the rural and remote areas at affordable and reasonable prices;

(n) "Universal Service Provider" means the person who has entered into an Agreement with the Administrator for the purpose of implementation of Universal Service Obligation;

(o) "Village Public Telephone" means the first public telephone installed in a village.

Inserted by Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Rules, 2004

In the Indian Telegraph Rules, 1951, in Rule 523, after Clause (b) the following clause shall be inserted : "(b)(b) "Broadband Connectivity" means an always on data connection that is able to support interactive services including internet access and has the capability of a minimum download speed as prescribed from time to time by the Central Government;" by the Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Rules, 2006.

In the Indian Telegraph Rules, 1951, in Rule 523, Clause (d) shall be substituted in place of :- "(d)"Capital Recovery" means the aggregate of depreciation, interest on debt and return on equity on the capital cost annualized over a period of seven years;" by the Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Rules, 2006.

In the Indian Telegraph Rules, 1951, in Rule 523, after Clause (d) the following clause shall be inserted : "(d)(a) "District" means the revenue district as identified in Census of India 2001;" by the Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Rules, 2006.

In the Indian Telegraph Rules, 1951, in Rule 523, Clause (f) shall be substituted : "(f) "High Speed Public Telecom and Information Centre" means a centre which offers additional facilities including tele-education and tele-medicine at a minimum data speed of 128 Kbps, for use by public;" by the Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Rules, 2006.

In the Indian Telegraph Rules, 1951, in Rule 523, Clause (f)(a) shall be inserted : "(f)(a)"Mobile Services means telegraph services provided by means of wireless telecommunication system which ensures use while in motion anywhere in the Service Area.;" by the Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Rules, 2006.

In the Indian Telegraph Rules, 1951, in Rule 523, Clause (h) shall be Omitted as follows "(h) "Public Telecom and Information Centre" means a centre which offers data applications including FAX, e-mail, internet besides voice telephony, for use by the Public;" by the Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Rules, 2006.

In the Indian Telegraph Rules, 1951, in Rule 523, in Clause (i), Explanation shall be renumbered as Explanation 1, by the Indian

Telegraph (Amendment) Rules, 2006.

In the Indian Telegraph Rules, 1951, in Rule 523, in Clause (i), after Explanation 1 the following explanation shall be inserted:-
"Explanation 2.-Where support is extended towards general infrastructure, for provision of mobile services and broadband connectivity, Net cost shall mean a percentage of Capital Recovery, as determined by the Administrator from time to time." by the Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Rules, 2006.

PART 10

UNIVERSAL SERVICE OBLIGATION FUND

524. Administration of the Universal Service Obligation Fund :-

1 .The Administrator shall have powers to,

(i) formulate bidding procedures including its terms and conditions for the purposes of implementation of Universal Service Obligation;

(ii) evaluate the bids called for the purposes of implementation of Universal Service Obligation;

(iii) enter into Agreement with the Universal Service Provider for the purposes of implementation of Universal Service Obligation; (iv) settle the claim of Universal Service Provider after due verification, and make disbursements accordingly from the Fund; (v) specify relevant formats, procedures and records to be maintained and furnished by the Universal Service Provider;

(vi) monitor the performance of the Universal Service Provider as per the procedure specified by him from time to time

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1. Inserted by Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Rules, 2004

525. Scope of support from Universal Service Obligation Fund :-

1 .

(1) Financial Support from the Fund shall be provided to meet the Net Cost of providing the specified Universal Service Obligation as per the procedure specified by the Administrator from time to time, and the period for which such support shall be provided and the services covered shall be governed by an Agreement entered into with the Universal Service Provider.

(2) The following services shall be supported by the Fund, namely:

(1) Stream-I: Provision of Public Telecom and Information Services

(a) Operation and Maintenance of Village Public Telephone in the revenue villages identified as per Census 1991 Installation of Village Public Telephone in the additional revenue villages as per Census 2001. For installation of Village Public Telephone in the revenue villages, identified as per 1991 Census, only the Operating Expenses and Revenue shall be taken into account for determining the Net Cost. For the additional revenue villages identified as per 2001 Census, Capital Recovery in addition shall also be taken into account for determining the Net Cost:

Provided that in the case of the Village Public Telephone which are still to be installed in the villages identified as per Census 1991, Capital Recovery shall also be taken into account while determining the Net Cost;

(b) Provision of additional rural community phones in areas after achieving the target of one Village Public Telephone in every revenue village. Where in a village the population is more than 2000 and no public call office is existing, a second public phone shall be installed and for the purposes of determining the Net Cost, Capital Recovery, Operating Expenses and Revenue shall be taken into account;

(c) Replacement of Multi Access Radio Relay Technology Village Public Telephone installed before 1.4.2002. Capital Recovery, Operating Expenses and Revenue shall be taken into account for determining the Net Cost.

(d) Up-gradation of a Public Telephone to Public Tele Information Centres. The data transmission facilities shall be provided within 5 Kms. of a village with a population exceeding 2000, preferably in those villages where post offices are located and the Capital Recovery only towards provision of customer premises equipment; namely, Computer, Uninterrupted Power Supply and Modem, Operating Expenses and Revenue shall be taken into determine the Net Cost.

(e) Installation of High Speed Public Telecom Information Centres. In a public place at Block Headquarters and in villages with a population exceeding 2000 shall be made in a phased manner. Capital Recovery towards customer premises equipment as in the case of Public Telecom Information centres, and required access as well as Operating Expenses and Revenue shall be taken into account to determine the Net Cost.

Note. Unless otherwise specified by the Central Government, the Secondary Switching Area shall be taken as a unit for the purpose of arriving at the Net Cost for activities specified in items (a) to (e) of stream I. (ii) Stream-II Provision of household telephones in rural and remote areas as may be determined by the Central Government from time to time :

(a) For household Direct Exchange Lines installed prior to 1.4.2002, the difference in rental actually charged from rural subscribers and rent prescribed by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India for such subscribers shall be reimbursed until such time the Access Deficit Charges prescribed by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India from time to time take into account such difference.

(b) For household Direct Exchange Lines installed after 1.4.2002, Capital Recovery, Operational Expenses and Revenue shall be taken into account to determine the Net Cost.

1. Inserted by Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Rules, 2004

526. Criteria for selection of Universal Service Provider :-

²³The selection of the Universal Service Provider shall be made by a bidding process from amongst the eligible operators, except for household ²⁴"and clause (ii)" of sub-rule (2) of Rule 525 and the Agreement signed as a result of the bidding process shall not be treated as grant of fresh license under the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 (13 of 1885).

25 "Explanation. For the purposes of this rule, "eligible operators" means the Basic Service Operators, Cellular Mobile Service Providers, Unified Access Services Licensees and infrastructure Providers (IP-I) or any other entities as may be specified in this behalf by the Central Government from time to time."

Inserted by Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Rules, 2004

In the Indian Telegraph Rules, 1951, in Rule 526, after the words, brackets and letters "Direct Exchange Lines referred to in item (a) of clause (ii)" the words, brackets and letters "and clause (vi)" shall be substituted, by the Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Rules, 2006.

In the Indian Telegraph Rules, 1951, in Rule 526, Explanation shall be substituted in place of : "Explanation. For the purposes of this rule, "eligible operators" means the Basic Service Operators, Cellular Mobile Service Provider and Unified Access Services Licensees or any other entities as may be specified in this behalf by the Central Government from time to time." ,by the Indian Telegraph

(Amendment) Rules, 2006.

527. Release of Funds to Universal Service Provider :-

1 .Fund shall be released to the Universal Service Provider in a manner and at such intervals as may be specified in the Agreement.'

1. Inserted by Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Rules, 2004