

Replies to Bidder's Queries (Batch-1)
TENDER ID: NG-BSD/PHASE-5/2020/01
Project IDs: NG-BSD/Lot11- Bolan/2020
NG-BSD/Smalllot-B3/2020
NG-BSD/Lot12- Jaffarabad/2020
NG-BSD/Smalllot-B2/2020
NG-BSD/Lot13-Ghotki/2020

16-Mar-2020

S.No	Queries	Document Ref:	USF Response
1	Please specify in numbers of population for which the LTE or equivalent services are to be provided	Annex-5 Clause 3(f) & Schedule B of SSA	"LTE or Equivalent" services should be available to at least 50% of total target population (60% of total population).
2	LTE or equivalent services are to be provided to 50% of the total population of this lot or 50% population of each mandatory mauza?	Annex-5 Clause 3(f) & Schedule B of SSA	Refer to response to query no 1
3	Please specify the term "LTE or Equivalent Services", what is the benchmark to gauge any service as equivalent to LTE? We assume LTE coverage only is for 50% of the total un served population and throughput requirement of 512 kbps DL&128kbps UL is for 2% of the 60% population to be covered	Schedule B of SSA &Annex-5 Clause 3(f)	"LTE or Equivalent" means the Broadband Internet Access Services shall be equivalent to LTE services in accordance with all quality of service requirements specified in the USF Service Provider's Licenses, and any other quality of service requirements established by the PTA. The Broadband Internet Access Services may be provided by any network technology which can provide a minimum data transfer rate of 512 kbps for downlink and 128 kbps for uplink, where the network should have sufficient capacity to cater for simultaneous use by at least 2% of the 60% of total population of each Mandatory Mauza.
4	It is specifically written in Schedule "B" clause 2, "The Broadband Internet Access Services may be provided by any network technology which can provide a minimum data transfer rate of 512 kbps for downlink and 128 kbps for uplink." Which contradicts with mandatory requirement of LTE or equivalent services.	Schedule B of SSA	Refer to response to Query No.1
5	LTE provision to at least 50% of total target population. Where target population is 60% of the total population of each mandatory mauza specified in Schedule-C. The term "50% of total target population" refer to which one of the following requirement? Please clarify. a. 50% of 60% of total unserved population of all the mandatory Mauzas collectively. Does the bidder hold liberty to select this subset of population considering its own commercial advantages? b. 50% of 60% of total unserved population of only broadband mandatory Mauzas collectively. Does the bidder hold liberty to select this subset of population considering its own commercial advantages? c. 50% of 60% of unserved population of each mandatory Mauza individually specified in Schedule-C.	Schedule B of SSA	Refer to response to Query No.1 & 2
6	LTE provision on Broadband mandatory Mauzas will be the only technology available in these mauzas. i.e. for broadband only Mauzas, 2G or 3G services will not be provisioned. Please clarify if otherwise.	Schedule B of SSA	For Mauzas where USF services requirement is "Broadband only" The Broadband Internet Access Services may be provided by any network technology which can provide a minimum data transfer rate of 512 kbps for downlink and 128 kbps for uplink to target population i.e. 60% of the total population of each Mandatory mauza, as specified in Schedule C. LTE services shall be provisioned to 50% of the total mandatory population. For Voice mandatory mauzas, backward compatibility with 2G handset is to be maintained
7	This is with reference to USF new requirement of giving LTE or equivalent services to 50% of total targeted population (60%). In this case, if we have chosen a mauza for LTE coverage, we would provide LTE based Broadband services to 2% of 60% population of that particular mauza by assuming that all this population (2% of 60%) would have LTE capable handsets. This also means that any person having 3G only handset will not be able to use Broadband services in such mauzas that have been chosen by the operator to have LTE services. USF is requested to provide clarity on this requirement."	Schedule B of SSA	"LTE or Equivalent" services should be available to at least 50% of total target population (60% of total population). The network should have sufficient capacity to cater for simultaneous use by at least 2% of the 60% of total population of each Mandatory Mauza. After availability of services, handset types and capabilities shall be driven by the market.