

Briefs: Grumbling reported over India spectrum

April 3 2006

Some India telecoms were reportedly miffed Monday over the way the Department of Telecommunications drafted its plan for the allocation of new spectrum.

The Business Standard said industry executives were considering the "legal ramifications" of the policymaking process and the fact that the department consulted only state-owned BSNL as it developed the new rules on wireless-spectrum allocation.

The telco executives felt they were improperly sidestepped by the DoT due to the fact that BSNL is only the third-largest wireless carrier in India.

The industry was also concerned that the policy passed up to the Group of Ministers (GoM) ignored the recommendations of the DoT's own internal committees, the newspaper said.

"We are planning to take up this issue with the prime minister's office on whose instructions the GoM was set up," an anonymous telco executive said.

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