

Dear Sir

The step you have taken to deactivate SIMs due to non-usage is appreciable.

Significant percent of numbers are not in use due to various reasons. The attractive offers by various service providers also caused this non-usage of numbers.

Particularly a large number of students community are being attracted to the offers

Adding to this many services providers are giving SIM cards free of cost

Many citizens just thrown out the SIMs due to various reasons like shifting from one State to other State (before MNP come into existence)

It is required to deactivate the SIMs that are not in use for a predefined period and such numbers should be made available to new customers. Also that, different service provides practice different criteria under the definition 'non-usage'. TRAI should take necessary steps to rationalize the criteria and deactivate the non-usage numbers.

Even though MNP is available, there are certain disadvantages like minimum retention period with a particular service provider. This should be cleared and customer should be given a chance to portability without time barrier

Customers may be given a chance to retain their numbers on payment of certain fee for a particular period of time

TRAI may address the service providers to follow the instructions and deactivate the SIMs

If this is not done, the numbers with 10 digits will exhaust and we have to go for 11 digits

Dr. K. Srisailam