

QUICK NEWS

MCOT MUST ADVISE NBTC ON ITS NEED FOR 2.6GHZ SPECTRUM

IF MCOT wants to keep using the 2.6-gigahertz spectrum it will have to tell the National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission why it needs it, said NBTC secretary-general Takorn Tantasith.

He said yesterday that if it is found that the spectrum was granted earlier as a concession that has since expired, MCOT had to hand it over to the commission. If the spectrum is returned to the NBTC, it is expected to be put up for auction next May.

MCOT wants to use the spectrum for a mobile TV service run under contract by Playwork, an IT solutions provider.

The NBTC broadcasting committee had ruled that MCOT had no right to do this, and had to hand over the spectrum. But on Tuesday, that decision was overruled 7-3 by the NBTC board.

The board ruled that the contract MCOT granted to Playwork was not a concession but just a procurement contract.