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**Information Note to the Press [Press Release No. 126/2018]**

For Immediate Release

**TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA**

**Migration to New Regulatory Framework for Broadcasting & Cable Services**

**New Delhi, 28<sup>th</sup> December, 2018:** Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), on 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2017, notified a new regulatory framework for Broadcasting and Cable services. However, the said regulatory framework could not come into effect because of some pending litigations. Accordingly, all the timelines prescribed in the said framework commenced from 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2018 through a press release no. 71/2018 issued by TRAI. The prescribed due date for migration to new framework is 29<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

2. In order to have a smooth implementation of the new regulatory framework, TRAI held a series of meetings and consultations with all the stakeholders including Consumers Advocacy Groups (CAG) during last 4-6 weeks. It was duly noted that to make the consumers aware about the new framework and the process of seeking fresh choice of TV channels from about 150 million subscribers would require some time and resources of the service providers.

3. Subsequently, the Authority also held meetings on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2018 and 27<sup>th</sup> December 2018 with various service providers of the broadcasting and cable services sector. The preparedness for migration of all subscribers from old to new framework was also assessed. The issue of smooth migration from the old to new regulatory framework was specifically discussed and deliberated upon. It emerged from the discussions that by and large, most of the stakeholders are ready for implementation of new regulatory framework.

4. In order to facilitate all the service providers to migrate their subscribers from old to new framework so that no inconvenience is caused to the subscribers, the Authority has issued a schedule of activities containing *inter-alia* as under :

- All existing packs/plans/bouquets to the subscribers will continue uninterrupted till 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019.
- No service provider to disconnect any signal/feed to any MSO/LCO/subscriber till 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019.
- DPOs to devise their own mechanism to reach out to all the subscribers and seek options from subscribers.
- DPOs to migrate all the subscribers to new framework w.e.f. 1st February 2019 as per options exercised by them.

5. The Authority once again emphasize that all the provisions of the Interconnection Regulations 2017, the QoS Regulations 2017 and the Tariff Order 2017 are in force and the regulatory provisions contained therein may be strictly complied with while implementing the prescribed schedule of activities. Accordingly, DPOs shall declare the Distributor Retail Price (DRP) and Network Capacity Fee (NCF) as per the time lines given in TRAI press release dated 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2018 i.e. by 29<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

6. In case you need any more clarifications, please feel free to contact Shri Arvind Kumar, Advisor (B&CS), TRAI at 011-23220209 or email at [arvind@gov.in](mailto:arvind@gov.in).

  
(S.K. GUPTA)  
Secretary, TRAI  
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