

Information note to the Press (Press Release No. 33/ 2020)

For Immediate Release

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India

TRAI releases recommendations on 'Ensuring Adequate Numbering Resources for Fixed Line and Mobile Services'.

New Delhi, 29th May 2020 – The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has today released its recommendations on 'Ensuring Adequate Numbering Resources for Fixed Line and Mobile Services'.

In this regard, a reference was received from the Department of Telecommunications through its letter No. 20-281/2010-AS-I Vol. XII (pt.) dated 08th May 2019, wherein it was requested to furnish recommendations on the strategies of National Digital Communications Policy 2018 which inter alia includes "Ensuring adequate numbering resources, by developing a unified numbering plan for fixed line and mobile services".

2. Accordingly, a Consultation Paper on 'Developing a Unified Numbering Plan for Fixed Line and Mobile Services' was issued by TRAI on 20th September 2019 to seek views/comments from stakeholders. An Open House Discussion (OHD) was also held on 16th January 2020 at TRAI, New Delhi.

3. Based on the comments/inputs received from the stakeholders, discussion held during OHD and on its own analysis, TRAI has finalized its Recommendations on 'Ensuring Adequate Numbering Resources for Fixed Line and Mobile Services'. Some of the salient features of the recommendations are as follows:

- (a) Migration to unified numbering scheme which involves large-scale changes in the existing network is not recommended at this stage.



However, sufficient numbering resources can be made available for fixed line/ mobile services through alternative methods.

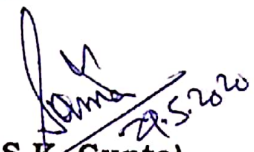
- (b) Sparingly used sub-levels in levels '2', '3', '4', '5', and '6', may be withdrawn after seeking sub-level wise utilization from the TSPs providing fixed line services. Levels/sub-levels allocated to some fixed line TSPs who have not launched their services even after one year of allocation, may also be withdrawn after seeking justification. These withdrawn levels should be reserved for future allocations for fixed line service providers.
- (c) All the SIM-based M2M connections using 10-digit mobile-numbering series should be shifted to the 13-digit numbering series allocated by DoT for M2M communication; at the earliest.
- (d) The following scheme should be adapted for creation of sufficient numbering space:
 - (i) Dial all fixed to mobile calls with the prefix '0'.
 - (ii) No change in dialing plan for fixed to fixed, mobile to fixed, and mobile to mobile calls.
 - (iii) A total time of one month may be given to all the TSPs to implement this scheme.
 - (iv) Suitable announcement may be fed in the fixed line switches to apprise the fixed line subscribers about the requirement of dialing the prefix '0' for all fixed to mobile calls. This announcement should be played whenever, a subscriber dials a fixed to mobile call without prefixing '0'.
 - (v) All the fixed line subscribers should be provided with the '0' dialing facility.
- (e) After exhausting all the surrendered numbering resources, the existing SDCA codes starting with '6', '3', '4', and '2', may be used for mobile services by suffixing with '0', '1', '8', and '9'. Initially, existing SDCA code of level '6' may be used followed by levels '3', '4', and '2', successively. Similarly, after exhausting all the numbering resources using the earlier steps the spare codes listed in the NNP 2003 may be



used for mobile services. Initially, spare code of level '6' may be used followed by levels '3', '4' and '2', successively.

- (f) The present criterion of utilization for allocation of the numbering resources should be continued.
- (g) An automated allocation of numbering resources using number management system software may be introduced to speed up the process of allocation in an efficient and transparent manner. If needed, this work may be outsourced with overall control and supervision of the DoT.

4. The recommendations have been placed on TRAI's website: www.trai.gov.in. For any clarification/information, Shri U.K. Srivastava, Pr. Advisor (NSL) may be contacted at Tel/Fax No. +91-11- 23233291


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