

Information Note to the Press [Press Release **No.63/2023**]

For Immediate Release

TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA

TRAI releases Draft Telecommunication Consumers Education and Protection Fund (Sixth Amendment) Regulation, 2023 for comments

New Delhi, 24th July, 2023: Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) today released draft **Telecommunication Consumers Education and Protection Fund (Sixth Amendment) Regulation, 2023** for stakeholders' comments.

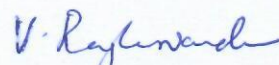
2. TRAI had notified the Telecommunication Consumers Education and Protection Fund Regulations, 2007 [(6 of 2007) [hereinafter referred to as the principal regulations] on 15th June 2007. In terms of these regulations, a fund called "Telecommunication Consumers Education and Protection Fund" (TCEPF) was created. The income generated by the TCEPF is utilized to undertake activities such as conduct Consumer Outreach Programmes, seminars, workshops, developing educational and awareness material etc. for dissemination of information to the consumers. The activities are planned by the Committee for Utilisation of Telecommunication Consumers Education and Protection Fund (hereinafter referred to as "CUTCEF") setup under the regulations.

3. The Authority has observed that for preparation, maintenance & audit of accounts, and for the participation of representatives of consumer groups for attending the meetings of CUTCEF, expenditure are to be incurred from TCEPF and provisions are required in the regulations. Accordingly, amendments have been proposed in the regulation 6 and 13 of the principal regulations.

4. During the year 2020, Corporation Bank in which the TCEPF is maintained has been merged with the Union Bank of India. Further, the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 (68 of 1986) has been repealed by the Consumer Protection Act, 2019 (35 of 2019). Therefore, amendments have been made to change the relevant provisions in the principal regulations.

5. The draft regulation is accessible on TRAI website www.trai.gov.in and shall be open for comments of the stakeholders up to 14th August, 2023.

6. In case of any clarifications, Shri Anand Kumar Singh, Advisor (CA&IT), TRAI may be contacted at Telephone: 011-23210990 or email ID: advisorit@traigov.in.



(V. Raghunandan)
Secretary, TRAI