



सत्यमेव जयते

भारतीय दूरसंचार विनियामक प्राधिकरण
TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA

भारत सरकार / Government of India



भादूविप्रा
TRAI

No. R-16/(1)/2022-NSL-I

Dated: 29/09/2023

To,

The Secretary
Department of Telecommunications
Ministry of Communications
Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi

Subject: Recommendations on "Improving Backhaul Telecom Infrastructure in far-flung areas of Himachal Pradesh"

TRAI has been continuously endeavouring towards improving backhaul and access telecom infrastructure especially in remote, hilly, and high-altitude terrain areas of the country from time to time. The Authority in its earlier recommendation on 'Improving Telecom Connectivity and Infrastructure in Far-Flung areas of Himachal Pradesh' dated 12th December 2022 had highlighted the need for a comprehensive investment plan for the core transmission backhaul network, covering all tehsils/talukas in four identified districts (Chamba, Kullu, Lahaul & Spiti, and Mandi), and also stated that a separate recommendation will be released addressing the issue.

2. In line with the aforesaid recommendation, in June 2023 a team of senior TRAI officials visited Lahaul & Spiti district of Himachal Pradesh and conducted a comprehensive assessment of core transmission backhaul network up to Block Headquarters in all four districts under consideration. Further, the Authority engaged in extensive interactions with relevant stakeholders, including TSPs, State Government officials, Senior officials from the security forces, Common Service Centre (CSC) representatives, and locals, to gain insights into the ground-level situation.

3. Based on the field visit, extensive interactions, assessment and analysis, the Authority suo-moto has finalized these recommendations with the objective of strengthening the optical fibre-based backhaul infrastructure in the identified four districts of Himachal Pradesh. The aim is to establish a robust, sustainable, and resilient backhaul telecom network, poised to facilitate high-capacity converged voice and data services with minimal latency, unwavering reliability, and scalability, while accommodating both present and future communication technologies, including 4G, 5G, and high-speed broadband services.

4. A copy of the Recommendations on 'Improving Backhaul Telecom Infrastructure in far-flung areas of Himachal Pradesh' along with this letter have been placed on TRAI website www.trai.gov.in.

Encl:- As above

V. Raghunandan

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