



No. C-9(1)/2021-NSL-II

Date: 26th August, 2021

To
The Secretary,
Department of Telecommunications,
Ministry of Communications,
Sanchar Bhawan, Ashoka Road,
New Delhi – 110 001

Subject: Recommendations on “Licensing framework for Satellite based connectivity for low bit-rate applications” -reg.

The Department of Telecommunications (DoT), vide its reference letter dated 23rd November 2020, under section 11(1)(a) of the TRAI Act, has requested TRAI to furnish recommendations on the Licensing framework to enable the provisioning of satellite-based low bit-rate applications for both commercial as well as captive usage.

2. DoT has requested TRAI to examine all the factors holistically and recommend enabling provisions under the existing licensing framework of DoT, or suggest new licensing framework which must include the entry fee, license fee, bank guarantee, Network Operations and Control Centre (NOCC) charges, Spectrum Usage Charges (SUC)/royalty fee, etc.

3. Based on the reference received from DoT, a Consultation Paper (CP) on ‘Licensing framework for Satellite-based low-bit-rate applications’ was issued on 12th March 2020, seeking comments and counter-comments of the stakeholders by 23rd April 2021 and 7th May 2021 respectively. The Authority received comments from 29 stakeholders and counter-comments from 4 stakeholders, which are available on TRAI’s website www.trai.gov.in. An Open House Discussion (OHD) was conducted on 2nd June 2021 through video conferencing, which was attended by more than 130 participants including various stakeholders, representatives from Central Ministries, Departments and State/UT Government, organizations.

4. Based on the comments/inputs received from the stakeholders and on its own analysis and discussions, the Authority has finalized the recommendations on “Licensing framework for Satellite based low bit-rate applications”. The same is enclosed herewith.

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5. In keeping with the practice, a copy of this letter, along with the recommendations, is being placed on TRAI website www.trai.gov.in.

Encl: as above

(V. Raghunandan)
Secretary, TRAI

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