

Information note to the Press (Press Release No 8/2011)

For Immediate release

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India

Tel.No.011-23216930
Fax:011-23220209
E-mail: tdra@traf.gov.in
tdra.traf@gmail.com
Website: www.traf.gov.in

TRAI releases consultation paper on “Green Telecommunications”

New Delhi, 3rd February, 2011- The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has today released a consultation paper on “Green Telecommunications”

Change in the world’s climate and the ensuing natural calamities like floods and typhoons are attributed to increased greenhouse gas emissions(GHG), mainly that of Carbon Dioxide, resulting from increased consumption of energy by manufacturing and service sectors. With more and more subscribers being added to the telecommunication networks, energy consumption and contribution of the telecom sector, to the global greenhouse gas emissions, is increasing. The total carbon footprint of the Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) industry is about 860 million tonnes or 2% of global emissions and that of telecommunication network and devices about 0.7% of the global emissions.

2. There is a growing concern about GHG emissions in India. To cater to its large subscriber base, there are about 3,10,000 telecom towers of which about 70% are in rural areas. Many of these areas have deficient power supply and, according to some reports, about 40% of the power requirement of these towers is being met by grid electricity and 60% by diesel generators. According to industry estimates, the total consumption of diesel, for telecom tower equipment powering and cooling, is about 2 billion litres which produces about 5.3 million litres of CO₂ annually. With the continued growth of the subscriber base these numbers are only going to increase. This is bringing into focus the need for energy efficient equipment and use of renewable sources of energy. In this context TRAI has issued a consultation paper

today to collectively discuss, debate and take further action or recommend suitable measures.

3. The consultation paper takes up the following important issues for deliberations:

- Estimation of the carbon footprint of the telecom sector in India.
- Need and framework of carbon credit policy for the Indian telecom sector
- Measures to reduce the telecom sector carbon footprint
- Promoting use of energy efficient devices and renewable sources of energy.
- Standards, testing and certification products and services as green.
- e-waste management

4. Full text of the Consultation Paper is available on TRAI's website (www.trai.gov.in). Written comments on the issues raised in this consultation paper are invited from the stakeholders by 7th March, 2011 and counter-comments on the comments by 21th March, 2011. The comments and counter-comments may be sent, preferably in electronic form, to Mr Lav Gupta, Principal Advisor (TD) on the e-mail address: tdra@traigov.in or tdra.trai@gmail.com. The comments can also be mailed to address given below or faxed to 011-23220209. Comments and counter-comments will be posted on the TRAI's website. For any further clarifications please contact Mr. Lav Gupta, Pr Advisor (TD) on 011-23216930

Contact Address in case of any clarification:

Lav Gupta
Principal Advisor (Technology Development)
Telecom Regulatory Authority of India
Mahanagar Door Sanchar Bhawan (Next to Zakir Hussain College)
Jawahar Lal Nehru Marg (Old Minto Road), New Delhi-110002

Tel. No.: 011-23220209,
Fax No.: 011- 23211998
Email: tdra.trai@gmail.com

Authorised for Issue: Pr. Advisor (TD)