



[COAI response to TRAI's draft Amendment to the Telecommunication Tariff Order, 1999 on exemption for small Internet Service Providers \(ISPs\) from tariff reporting requirement.](#)

We would like to make following submission with regard to the draft TTO:

- 1) As the draft TTO pertains to tariffs, the reporting requirement should be uniform across all Service Providers irrespective of the services offered by them / size of their subscriber base. We believe that there is no linkage between number of subscribers of an operator and the regulatory obligations of tariff reporting.
- 2) In light of the above, we suggest that the proposed Proviso to clause 7(i)(b) of TTO'99 is not required. The same is excerpted below:

“Provided also that nothing contained under this sub-clause shall apply to any Internet service provider during a financial year if the total number of its subscribers is less than ten thousand on the last day of the preceding financial year”

- 3) We agree with the clause 7 (i)(a) of TTO'99 that a similar exemption as granted to access providers may be extended to all ISPs irrespective of the size of their subscriber base.
- 4) Further, to the above we have following submissions/suggestions on the issue of tariff filing by our member operators for your kind consideration:
 - a) **TRAI needs to make the current tariff filing regime simpler for all the licenses in general.** We suggest that the tariff filing should be regularized to electronic format which will give the operators the flexibility to submit tariffs anytime during the day and help in avoiding any delays. It would also help in keeping a track of the tariff filings done with TRAI.
 - b) **There should not be any financial dis-incentive on delayed tariff filing.** The key reason for tariff filing is to ascertain whether the tariffs are in line with the regulatory principles. Hence, if any action needs to be taken, it should be for only those tariffs which are violative of those principles. Delay in filing is an unnecessary irritant and very difficult to comply at 100% levels.
 - c) The Telecom Tariff Order (TTO) was issued by TRAI in 1999. Since then there has been 58 amendments to the TTO. In this regard, we request TRAI to kindly issue fresh TTO which includes all the amendments till date. This will help our members to refer to just one document for all the tariff related orders and would help in avoiding any confusion.

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