

Fwd: Pre-consultation on "Allocation of spectrum in 2G band in 22 service areas by auction"

1 message

pradvmn TRAI <pradvmn@trai.gov.in>
To: trai.jams@gmail.com, trai.msdiv@gmail.com

Wed, Feb 15, 2012 at 3:48 PM

----- Original Message -----

From: Anil Nag <wgcdranilnag@yahoo.com>

Date: Wednesday, February 15, 2012 3:34 pm

Subject: Pre-consultation on "Allocation of spectrum in 2G band in 22 service areas by auction"

To: pradvmn@trai.gov.in

15 Feb 2012

Shri Sudhir Gupta,
Pr. Adviser (MS),
TRAI
New Delhi.

Sub : Pre-Consultation on "Allocation of spectrum in 2G band in 22 service areas by auction."

Dear Mr. Gupta,

I am writing this in response to the press release dtd 03.02.2012 asking for comments / suggestions of the stake holders on the subject consequent upon the judgment by the Supreme Court.

I am doing so in my capacity as a subscriber of telecom services who I think is also a stake holder in this matter. The decisions that TRAI and the Govt. takes will have a direct bearing on mobile subscribers, hence the liberty of assumption as a 'stake holder'.

My primary concern is of ' mobile tariff ' which may zoom up due to auction, if not handled in a proper manner. I am sure the judgment by the Supreme Court is for transparency and not for maximizing revenue generation for the exchequer. In any case the judgment has not done away with the New Telecom Policy of 1999 as amended in 2003. The basic features and key words of this policy were "Affordable" , "Teledensity" , "Service Quality" and " Advanced Technology ".

TRAI and the Govt. is duty bound to adhere to this policy of the State which has not been revoked by any authority. I can say with absolute degree of certainty that today any Indian with any budget, be it Rs 10, 100 ,1000 or more per month can have a

working mobile connection with life time availability. If required, I can submit my own mobile usage to prove my point. Hence, the dream of telecoms service for all citizens is a reality. Nothing should be done to jeopardize this happy situation in telecom sector.

Hence, it is imperative that TRAI clearly specifies the affordability criteria to those who take part in auction so that they can bid sensibly. I suggest that a tariff plan with following ingredients be made mandatory for all operators : (a) Pulse Duration : one second or less. (b) Pulse Charges : 1 p / second or less (c) Validity : Life time of the license with nominal annual retention charge.

It is because of such a plan and "competition" that the country saw a phenomenal increase in teledensity during last couple of years. Rural and Urban Teledensity improved from 2% and 45% respectively in F/Y 2007 to 37.48% and 167.85% as of Dec '12. However, rural teledensity in telecom circles Bihar, MP, and UP continue to be way behind national average. Interests of the poor and disadvantaged have to be protected.

I reiterate my suggestion that affordability criteria must be specified for sensible bid in the auction.

As it is a pre consultation stage I am not going into greater details with many other point with supporting reasons and arguments. In case TRAI needs it at any other stage of consultation, I will be happy to be associated with it.

With kind regards,

Wg Cdr Anil Nag (Retd)
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